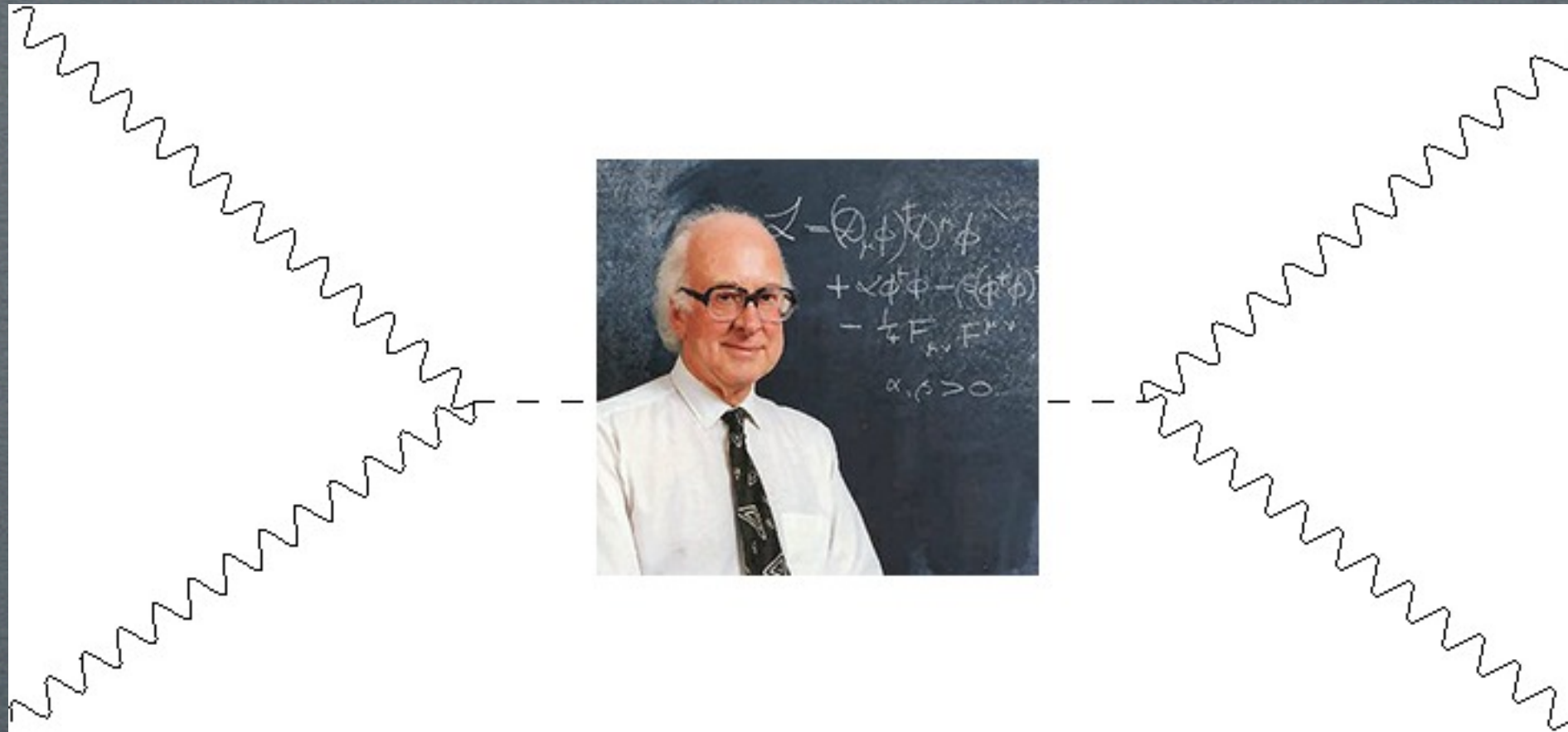


# THE MATRIX ELEMENT METHOD FOR HIGGS DISCOVERY



JAMES "JAMIE" GAINER  
ARGONNE / NORTHWESTERN

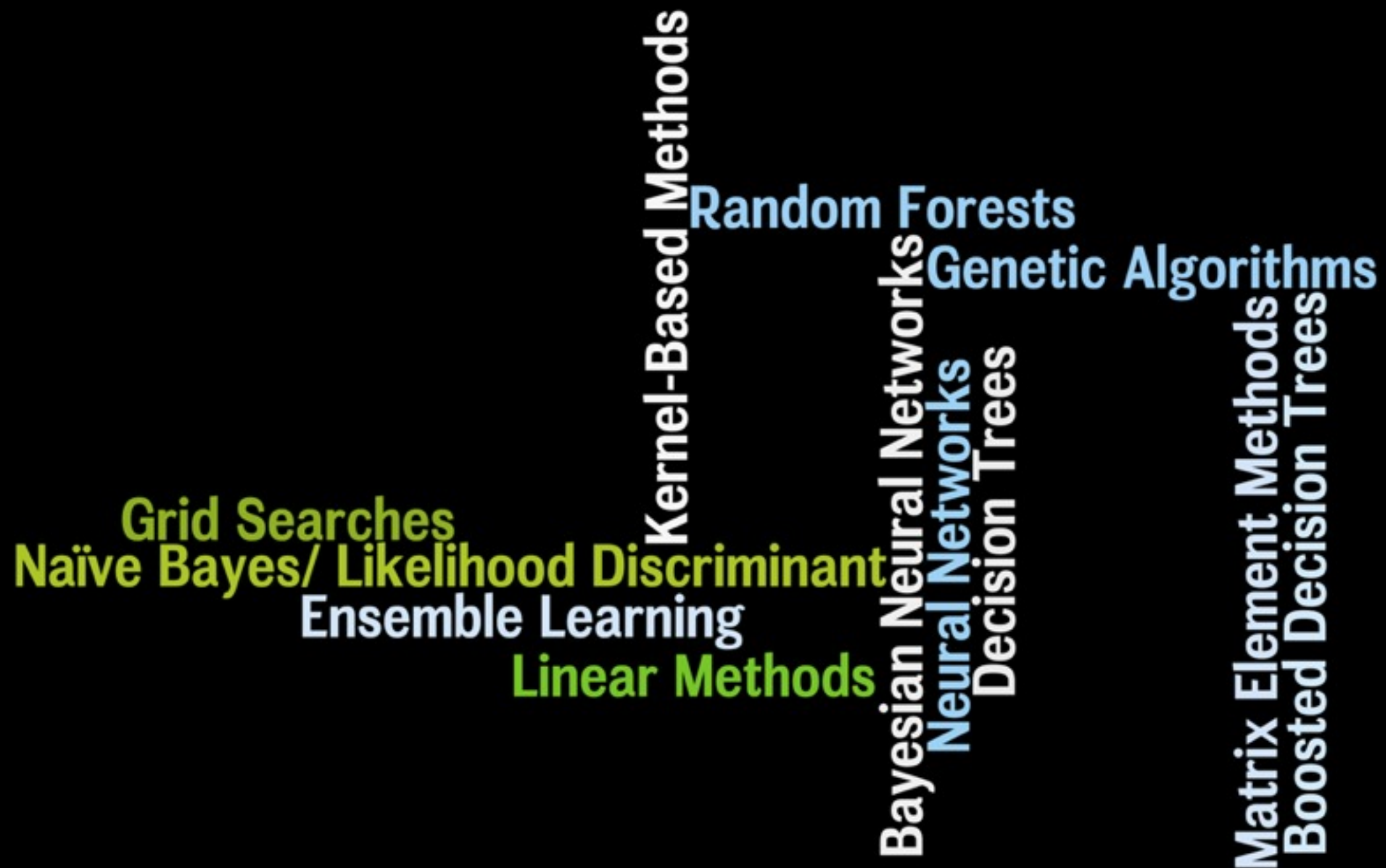


# OUTLINE

- ✱ The Matrix Element Method (MEM)
- ✱ Previous use of MEM for Higgs in  $ZZ \rightarrow 4l$
- ✱ Improvement of discovery significance for Higgs in  $ZZ \rightarrow 4l$  using the MEM at the 7 TeV LHC  
([arXiv:1108.2274](https://arxiv.org/abs/1108.2274) [hep-ph]).
- ✱ Future Directions



# MULTIVARIATE ANALYSES





# MATRIX ELEMENT METHOD

- ✱ The **Matrix Element Method (MEM)** =  
use of the matrix element/  
differential cross section as a  
likelihood function
- ✱ In our analyses, we will use the expression for  
**likelihood**:

$$\mathcal{L}(\mu; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{e^{-\mu} \mu^N}{N!} \prod_{i=1}^N P(\boldsymbol{\theta}; x_i)$$



# MATRIX ELEMENT METHOD

$$\mathcal{L}(\mu; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{e^{-\mu} \mu^N}{N!} \prod_{i=1}^N P(\boldsymbol{\theta}; x_i)$$

- ✱  $\mu$  is the **expected number** of events
- ✱  $N$  is the **observed number** of events
- ✱  $P$  is the **normalized differential cross section** as a function of the underlying model and model parameters ( $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ ) and the properties of the event (momenta of observed particles,  $x_i$ )



# MATRIX ELEMENT METHOD

- ✱ In general,  $P$  is not simply the differential cross section for the observed momenta
- ✱ Some 4-momenta may be poorly measured (esp. jets), should integrate over **transfer function**
- ✱ Some processes may involve final state particles which are not observed (neutrinos, neutralinos, etc.). Need to **integrate over undetermined momenta.**



# MATRIX ELEMENT METHOD

- ✱ Tools exist to make integration over undetermined momenta easier (**MadWeight**)
- ✱ though additional integration unavoidably makes the MEM **computation intensive**- can be deterrent to experimentalists.
- ✱ Can avoid transfer functions (more or less) and integrations over unobserved particles by considering final states with only **charged leptons and photons**.



# ZZ FINAL STATES

- ✱ This makes the **ZZ final state**, where both Zs decay leptonically and the final state can therefore be **completely reconstructed**, especially attractive for study.





# HIGGS LOOK-ALIKES AT THE LHC

- ✱ De Rujula, Lykken, Pierini, Rogan, Spiropulu, Phys. Rev. D82 (2010) 13003.
- ✱ Studied how effectively resonances decaying to  $ZZ$  with different spins, couplings, and CP properties can be distinguished at the 10 TeV LHC.
- ✱ Used  $s$ Plots method, in which background events are effectively removed from distributions by reweighting each event.

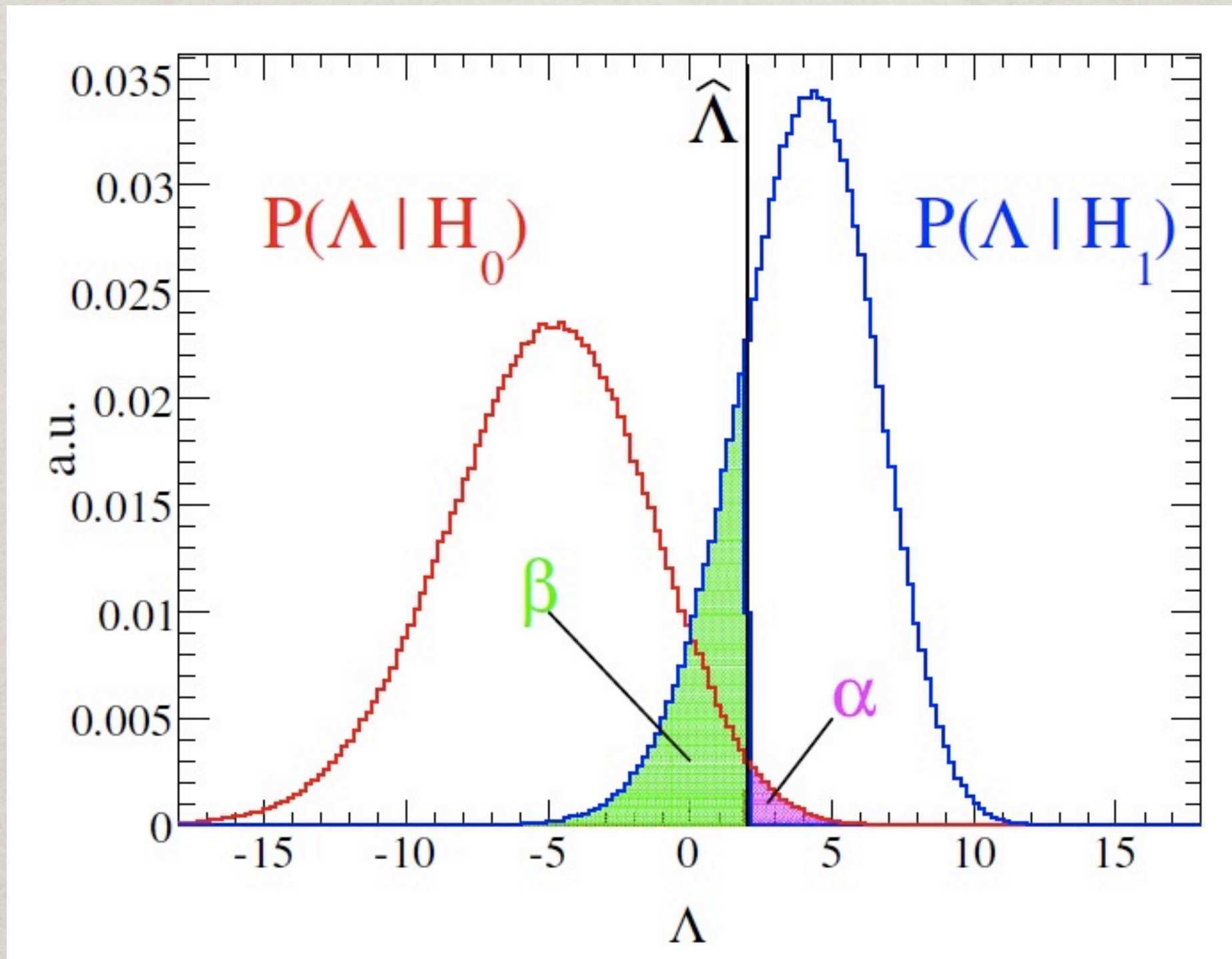


# HIGGS LOOK-ALIKES AT THE LHC

- ✱ Considered full angular correlations (via the MEM) as well as invariant mass, etc.
- ✱ Generally found different resonances could be distinguished with a relatively low number of events.
- ✱ Also looked at Higgs discovery significance at specific masses (still at 10 TeV) using invariant mass information.



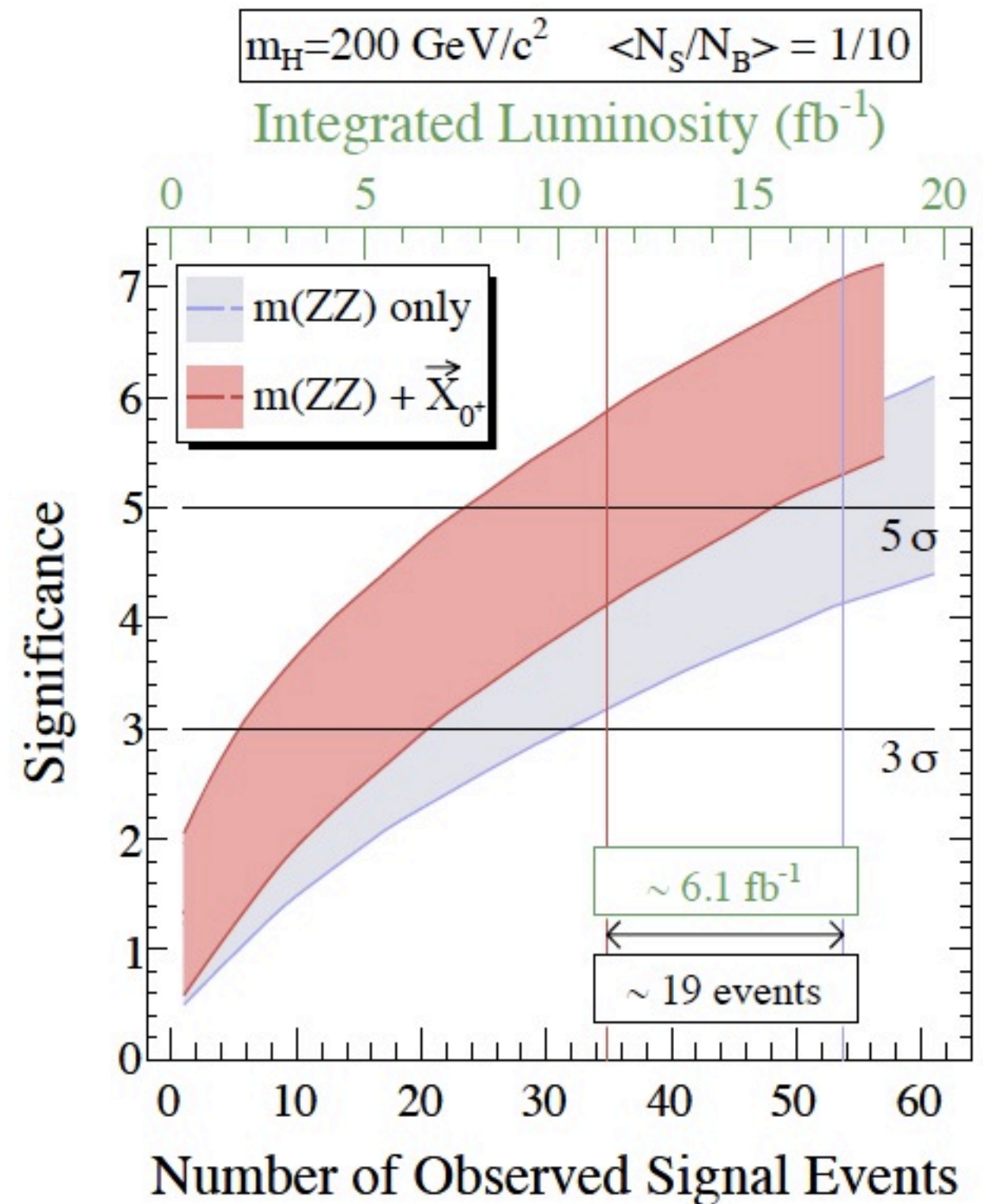
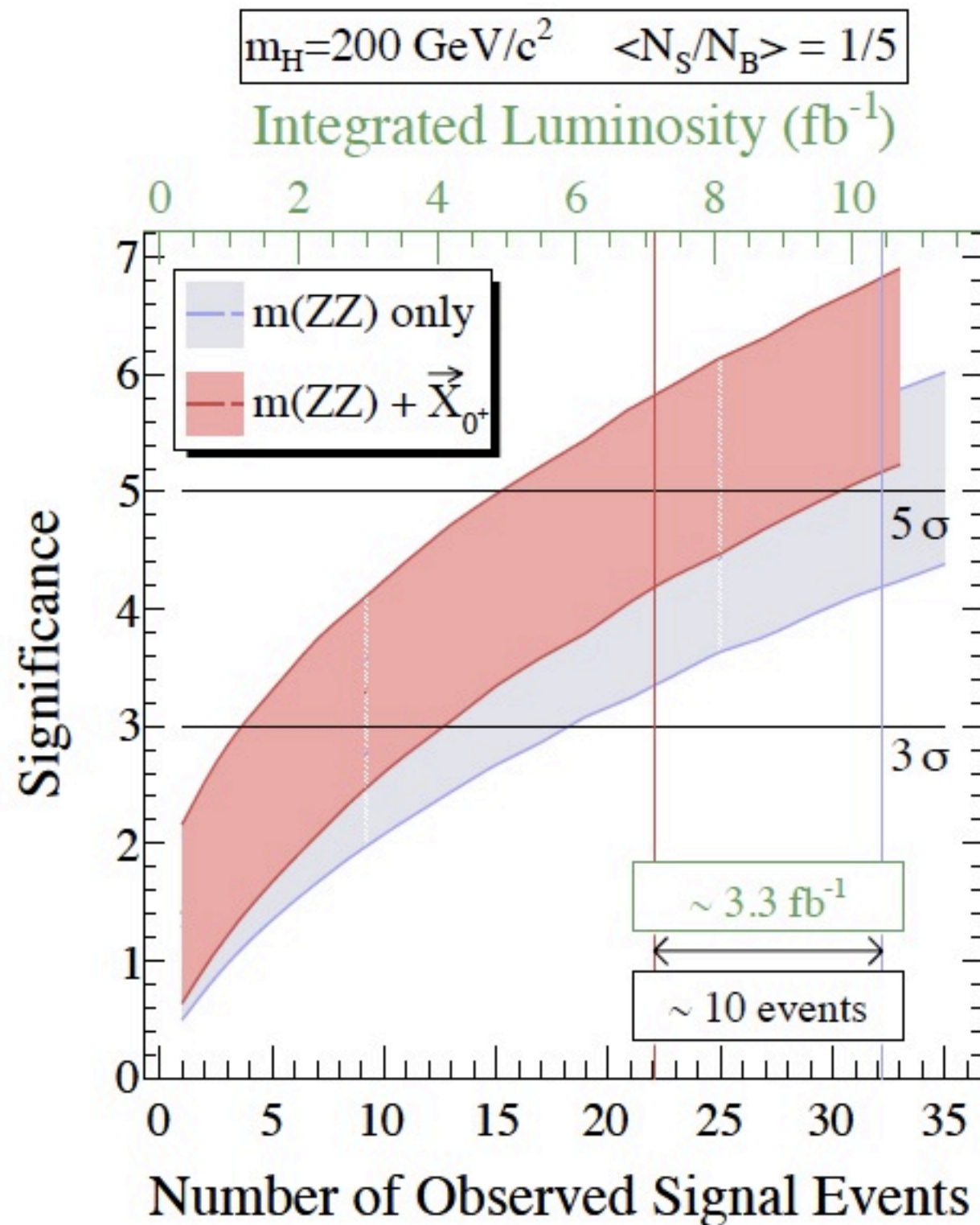
# HIGGS LOOK-ALIKES AT THE LHC



$H_0 = 0^+$  vs.  $H_1 = 0^-$ ,  $m_h = 200$  GeV,  $N_s = 23$

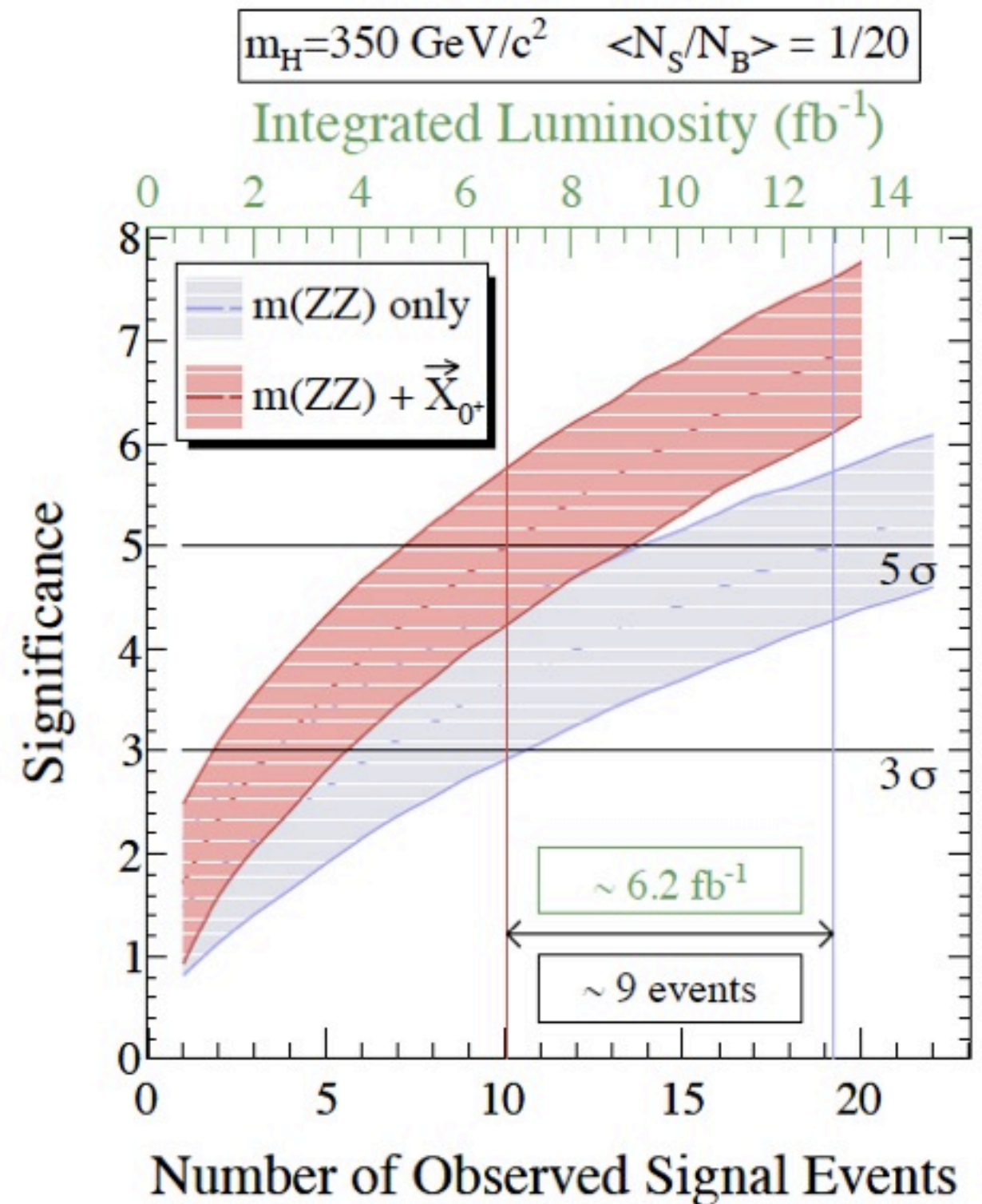
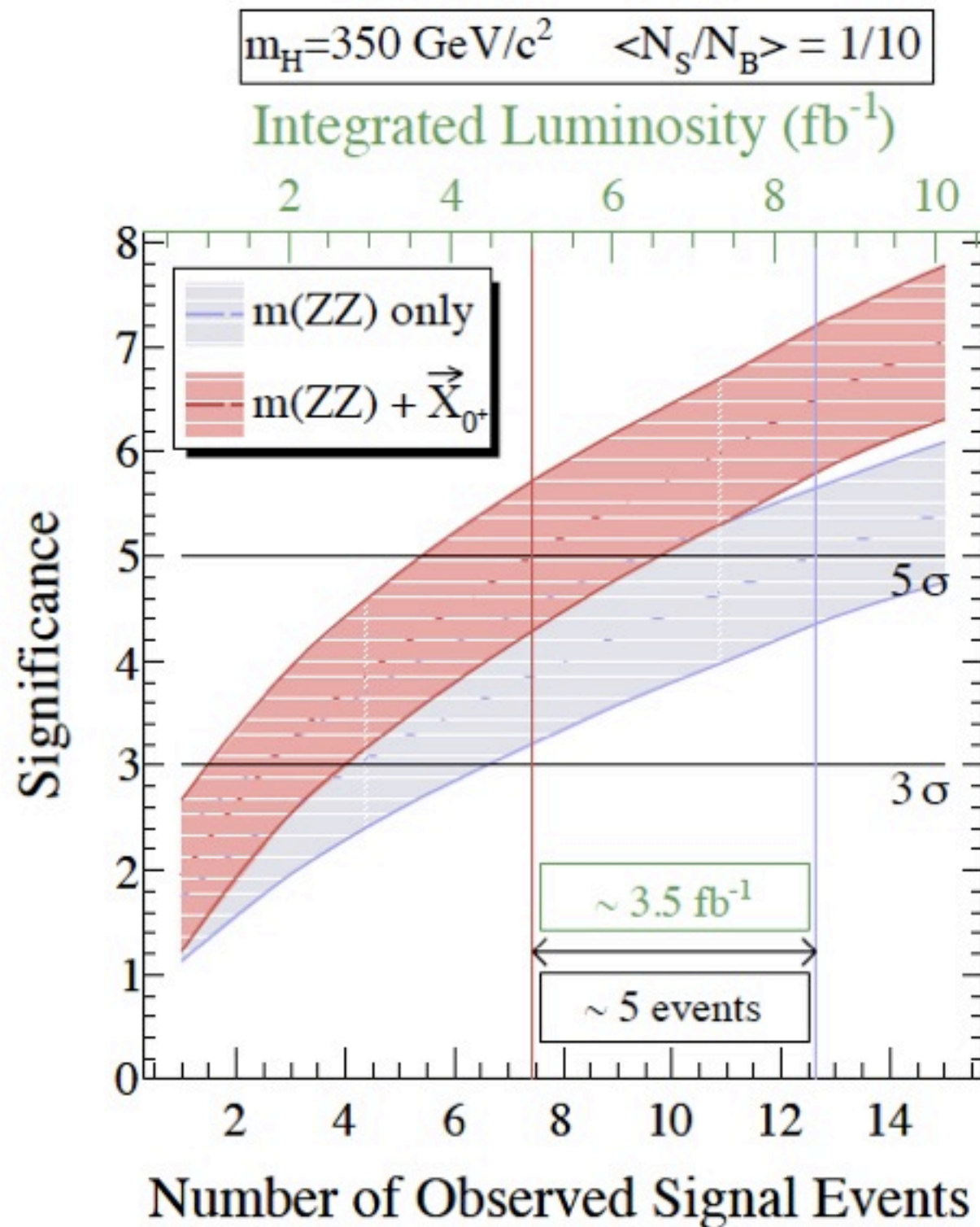


# HIGGS LOOK-ALIKES AT THE LHC





# HIGGS LOOK-ALIKES AT THE LHC





# SPIN DETERMINATION OF SINGLE-PRODUCED RESONANCES AT HADRON COLLIDERS

- ✱ Gao, Gritsan, Guo, Melnikov, Schulze, Tran, Phys. Rev. D81 (2010) 075022.
- ✱ Studied how effectively resonances decaying to  $ZZ$  with different spins, couplings, and CP properties can be distinguished at the 14 TeV LHC.

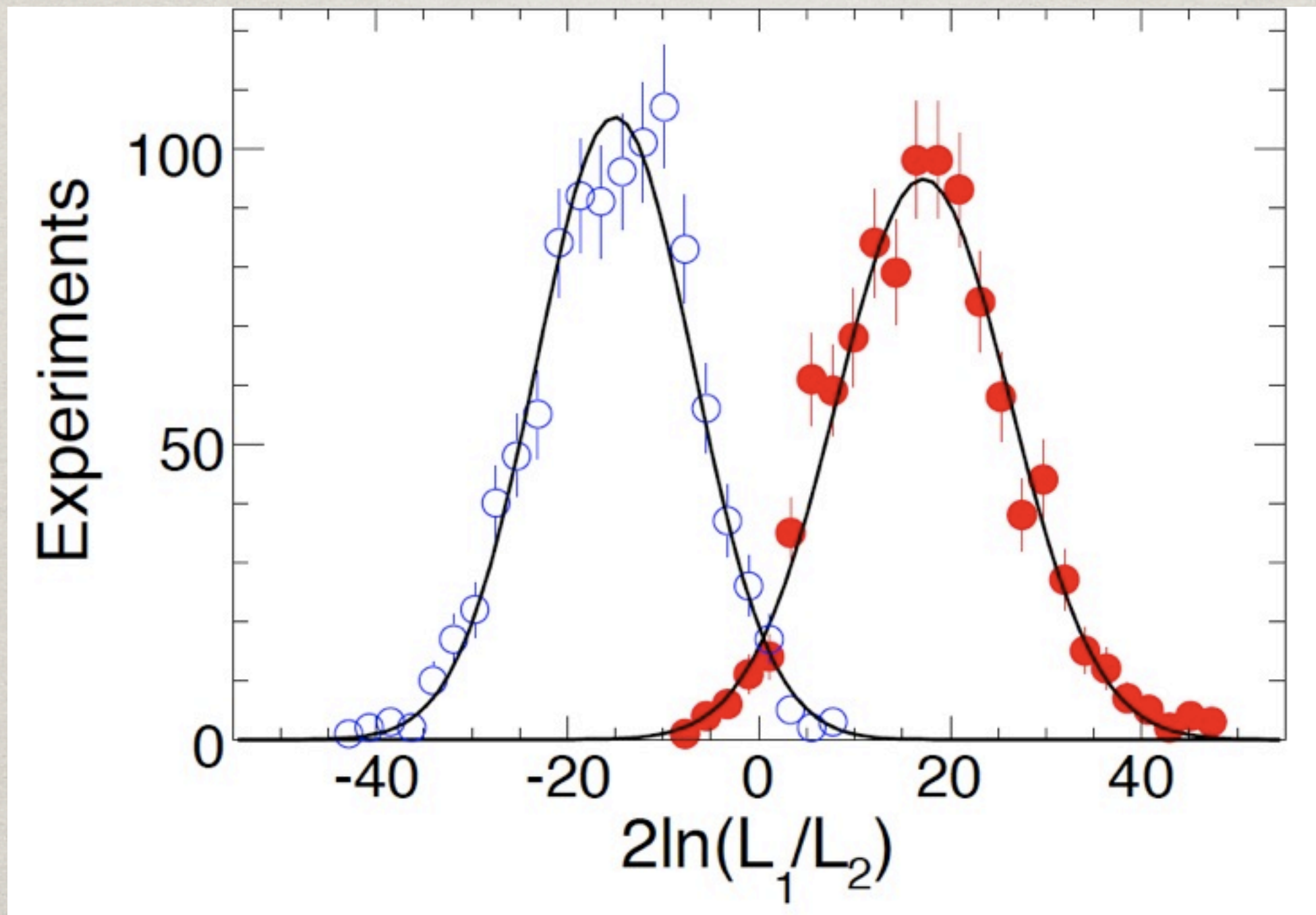


# SPIN DETERMINATION OF SINGLE-PRODUCED RESONANCES AT HADRON COLLIDERS

- ✱ Used the matrix element method.
- ✱ Backgrounds from MadEvent.
- ✱ Generally found that different resonances could be clearly distinguished in this channel.



# SPIN DETERMINATION OF SINGLE-PRODUCED RESONANCES AT HADRON COLLIDERS



$L_1 = 0^+$  vs.  $L_1 = 0^-$ ,  $m_h = 250$  GeV,  $N_s = 30$



# ZZ DISCOVERY

✻ We (JG, Kunal Kumar, Ian Low, and Roberto Vega-Morales) wanted to understand how much the **MEM** could aid in Higgs discovery in **ZZ final states** at the **7 TeV LHC**.

✻ [arXiv:1108.2274 \[hep-ph\]](#)



# OUR MEM/ LIKELIHOOD

- ✱ Use the MEM to distinguish signal and background.
- ✱ Specifically we generalize

$$\mathcal{L}(\mu; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{e^{-\mu} \mu^N}{N!} \prod_{i=1}^N P(\boldsymbol{\theta}; x_i)$$



# OUR MEM/ LIKELIHOOD

✶ to

$$\mathcal{L}_{s+b}(\mu, f, m_h) = \frac{e^{-\mu} \mu^N}{N!} \prod_{i=1}^N [f P_s(m_h; x_i) + (1 - f) P_b(x_i)]$$

where

$$0 < f = \frac{\mu_s}{\mu_s + \mu_b} < 1$$

$P_{s(b)}$  = Normalized signal (background) differential cross section

$\mu_{s(b)}$  = expected signal (background) number of events



# OUR MEM/ LIKELIHOOD

- ✱ When we maximize the above expression with respect to  $\mu$ , we obtain  $\mu = N$  (the observed number of events).
- ✱ So we are left with

$$\prod_{i=1}^N [f P_s(m_h; x_i) + (1 - f) P_b(x_i)]$$

- ✱ To proceed further, we need expressions for  $P_s$  and  $P_b$

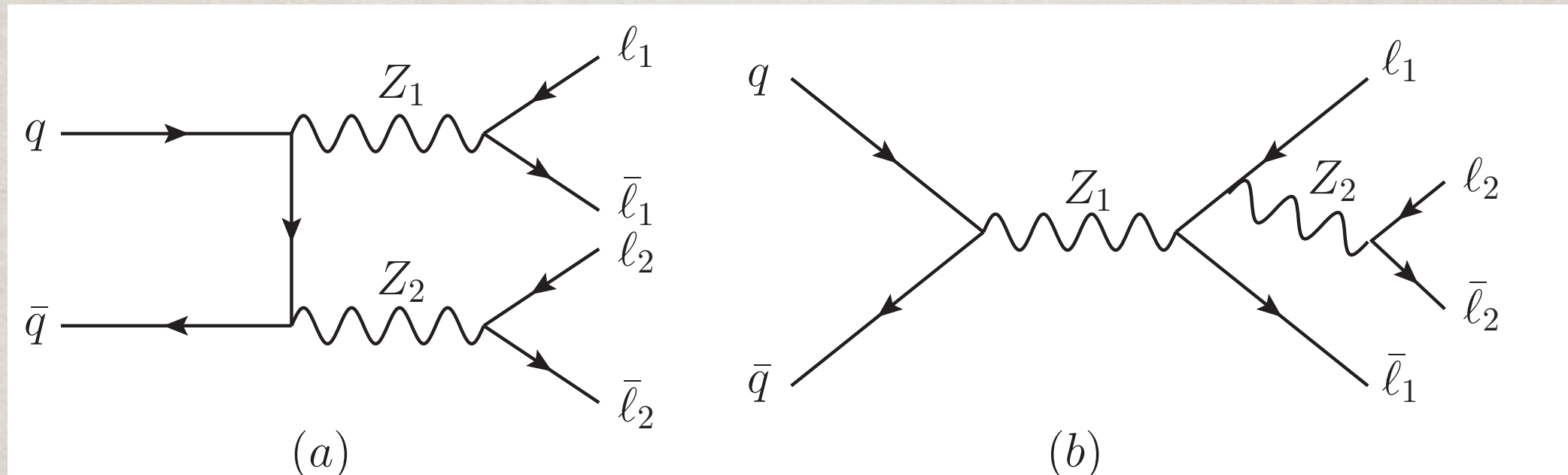


# DIFFERENTIAL CROSS SECTIONS

- ✱ We obtain analytic expressions for  $P_s(b)$
- ✱ Allows greater understanding of what is providing signal vs. background discrimination
- ✱ Built from helicity amplitudes



# BACKGROUNDS CONSIDERED



- ✿ We consider only diagrams as in (a) (and its u-channel counterpart), at LO
- ✿ There are LO diagrams, like that shown in (b), which we also do not consider



# BACKGROUND HELICITY AMPLITUDES

- ✱ We express amplitudes for the production of  $Z$  bosons with definite helicity from initial (massless) fermions with definite helicity as

$$\mathcal{M}_{\sigma\bar{\sigma};\lambda_1\lambda_2}^{ZZ} = 4\sqrt{2} \left(g_{\Delta\sigma}^{Zq\bar{q}}\right)^2 \epsilon \delta_{|\Delta\sigma|,\pm 1} \frac{\mathcal{A}_{\lambda_1\lambda_2}^{\Delta\sigma}(\Theta) d_{\Delta\sigma,\Delta\lambda}^{J_0}(\Theta)}{4\beta_1\beta_2 \sin^2 \Theta + (1 - \beta_1\beta_2)^2 - x^2(1 + \beta_1\beta_2)^2}$$

where

$$\Delta\sigma = \sigma - \bar{\sigma}, \epsilon = \Delta\sigma(-1)^{\lambda_2}, \Delta\lambda = \lambda_1 - \lambda_2, \text{ and } J_0 = \max(|\Delta\sigma|, |\Delta\lambda|)$$

following the convention in Hagiwara, Hikasa, Peccei, and Zeppenfeld (Nucl.Phys. B282 (1987) 253)



# BACKGROUND HELICITY AMPLITUDES

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta\lambda = \pm 2 : \mathcal{A}_{\pm\mp}^{\Delta\sigma} &= -\sqrt{2}(1 + \beta_1\beta_2) , \\
 \Delta\lambda = \pm 1 : \mathcal{A}_{\pm 0}^{\Delta\sigma} &= \frac{1}{\gamma_2(1+x)} \left[ (\Delta\sigma\Delta\lambda) \left( 1 + \frac{\beta_1^2 + \beta_2^2}{2} \right) - 2 \cos \Theta \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - (\Delta\sigma\Delta\lambda)(\beta_2^2 - \beta_1^2)x - 2x \cos \Theta - (\Delta\sigma\Delta\lambda) \left( 1 - \frac{\beta_1^2 + \beta_2^2}{2} \right) x^2 \right] \\
 : \mathcal{A}_{0\pm}^{\Delta\sigma} &= \frac{1}{\gamma_1(1-x)} \left[ (\Delta\sigma\Delta\lambda) \left( 1 + \frac{\beta_1^2 + \beta_2^2}{2} \right) - 2 \cos \Theta \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - (\Delta\sigma\Delta\lambda)(\beta_2^2 - \beta_1^2)x + 2x \cos \Theta - (\Delta\sigma\Delta\lambda) \left( 1 - \frac{\beta_1^2 + \beta_2^2}{2} \right) x^2 \right] \\
 \Delta\lambda = 0 : \mathcal{A}_{\pm\pm}^{\Delta\sigma} &= -(1 - \beta_1\beta_2) \cos \Theta - \lambda_1 \Delta\sigma (1 + \beta_1\beta_2)x , \\
 \Delta\lambda = 0 : \mathcal{A}_{00}^{\Delta\sigma} &= 2\gamma_1\gamma_2 \cos \Theta \left[ ((1-x)\beta_1 + (1+x)\beta_2) \sqrt{\frac{\beta_1\beta_2}{1-x^2}} - (1 + \beta_1^2\beta_2^2) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

- ✿ Note that all helicity amplitudes depend only on a production angle  $\Theta$  and that different helicity amplitudes have different energy dependences



# SIGNAL HELICITY AMPLITUDES

- ✻ For signal we consider gluon fusion production of the Higgs and then its decay to Z bosons with definite helicity (also LO)

$$\mathcal{M}_{h;\pm 1\pm 1}^{ZZ} = \frac{\alpha_s m_Z^2 \hat{s}}{3\pi v^2 ((\hat{s} - m_h^2)^2 + m_h^2 \Gamma_h^2)^{1/2}} ,$$
$$\mathcal{M}_{h;00}^{ZZ} = \gamma_1 \gamma_2 (1 + \beta_1 \beta_2) \frac{\alpha_s m_Z^2 \hat{s}}{3\pi v^2 ((\hat{s} - m_h^2)^2 + m_h^2 \Gamma_h^2)^{1/2}}$$

- ✻ Helicities of Zs are equal for all non-vanishing amplitudes.
  - ✻ Due to the Higgs being spin-0.



# Z DECAY AMPLITUDES

- ✱ The amplitude for a Z with a particular helicity to decay to leptons is

$$\mathcal{M}_{\lambda_i; \sigma_i \bar{\sigma}_i}^{(i)} = \Delta\sigma_i (-1)^{\lambda_i} \sqrt{2} g_{\Delta\sigma}^{Z\ell\bar{\ell}} d(\Delta\sigma_i, \lambda_i, \theta_i) m_i e^{i\lambda_i\phi_i}$$

where

$$d(\Delta\sigma_i, \lambda_i, \theta_i) = d_{\Delta\sigma_i, \lambda_i}^{\max(|\Delta\sigma_i|, |\lambda_i|)}(\theta_i)$$

- ✱ Note the dependence on  $\theta_i$  and  $\phi_i$ .  
Thus 4 of the 5 angles describing the event are essentially measuring the helicities of the Zs.

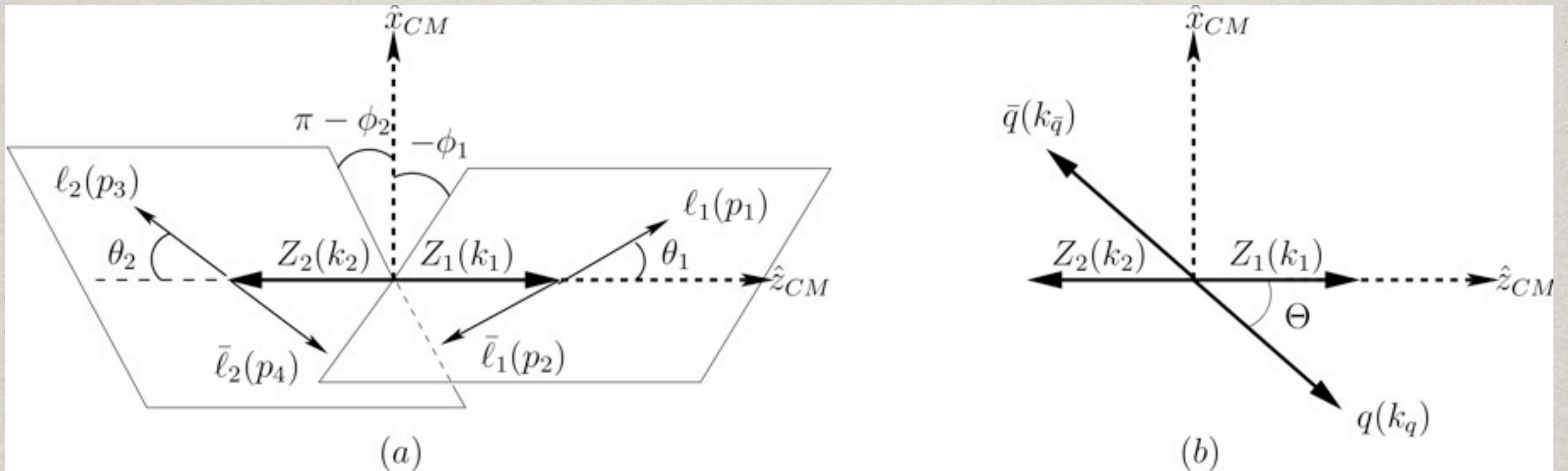


# DIFFERENTIAL CROSS SECTIONS

- ✱ With these production and decay helicity amplitudes it is straightforward to calculate the matrix element for signal or background production of a given event.
- ✱ Need to sum over directions of incoming quark (as opposed to antiquark) for background.
- ✱ Also include PDFs, phase space factor, etc.



# ANGULAR CONVENTION



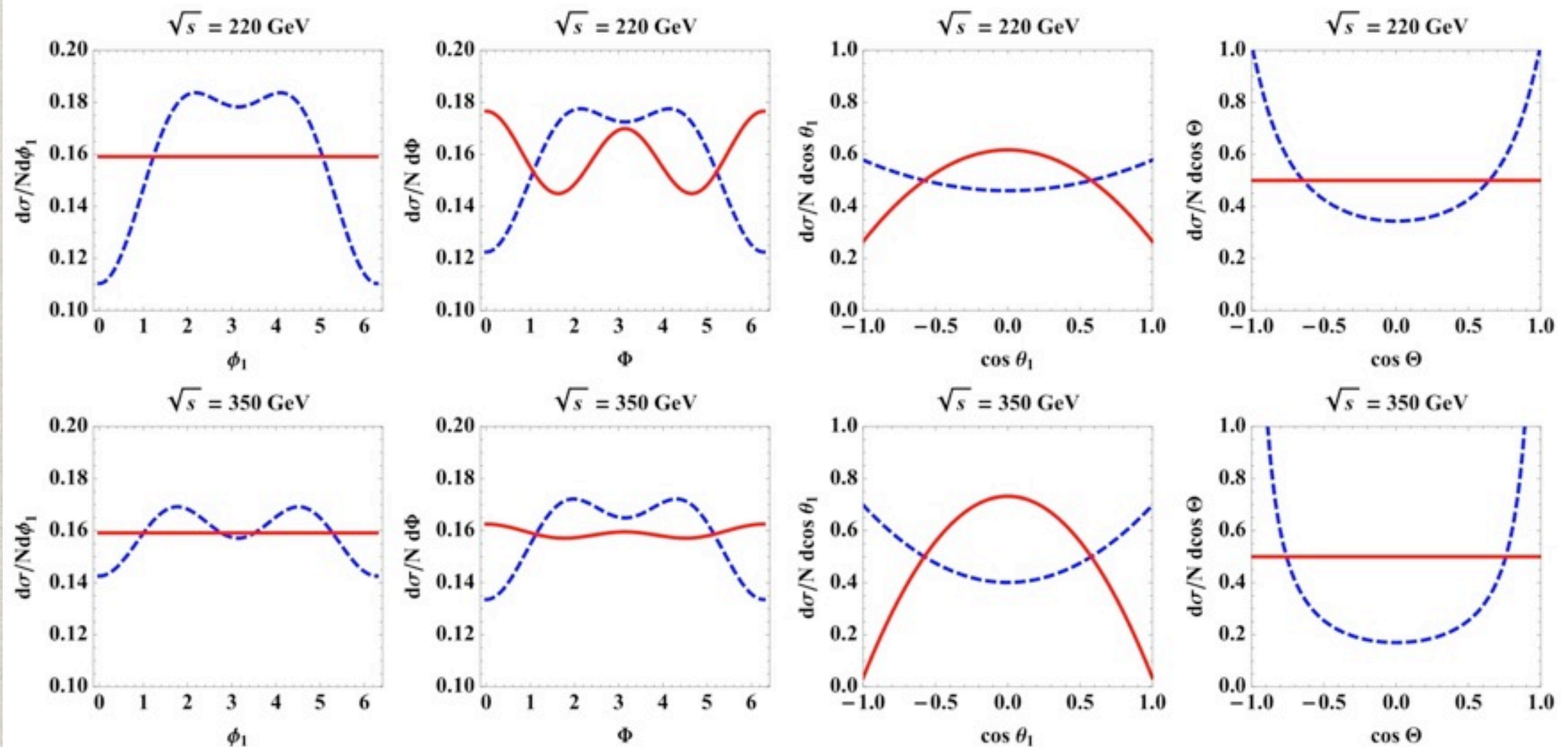
- ✱ The angles in the amplitudes above are defined in a convention where  $\Theta$  is the angle between  $Z_1$  and the  $z$  (initial quark in background case) axis in the CM frame.
- ✱  $\theta_{1(2)}$  and  $\phi_{1(2)}$  are the standard  $\theta$  and  $\phi$  angles in the frame obtained by
  - ✱ Boosting along the  $z$ -axis from the lab frame to the CM frame
  - ✱ Rotating about the  $y$ -axis so that  $Z_{1(2)}$  is in the  $z$  direction
- ✱ Our paper also contains Lorentz invariant expressions for these angles



# ANGULAR DISTRIBUTIONS

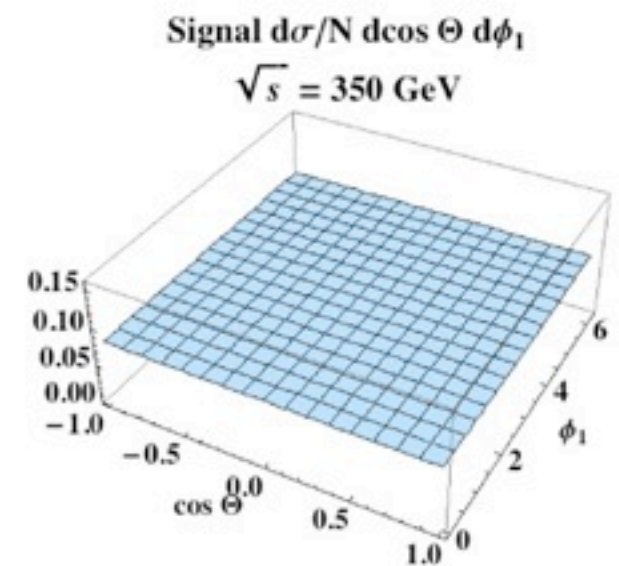
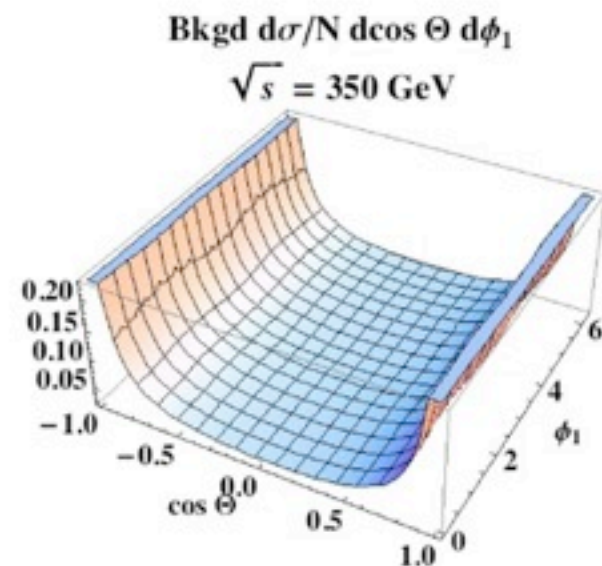
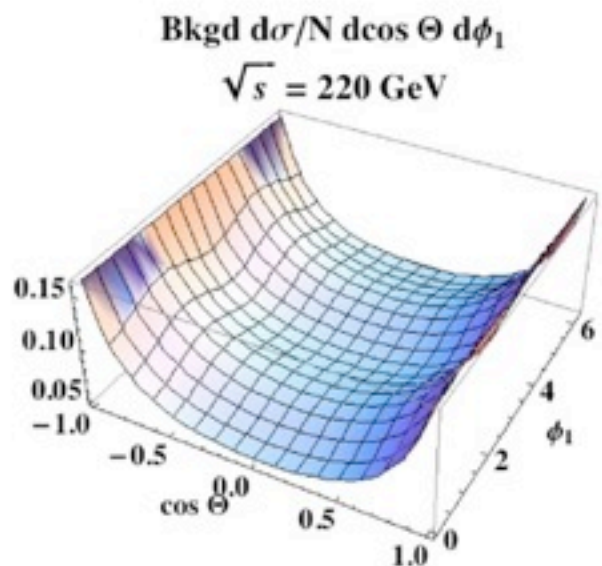
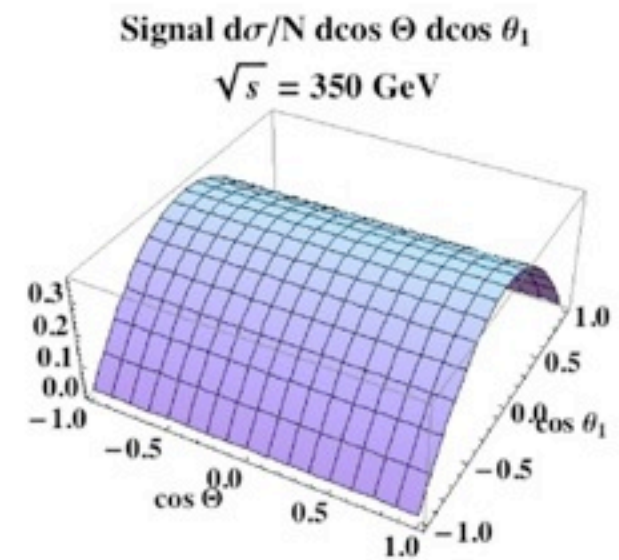
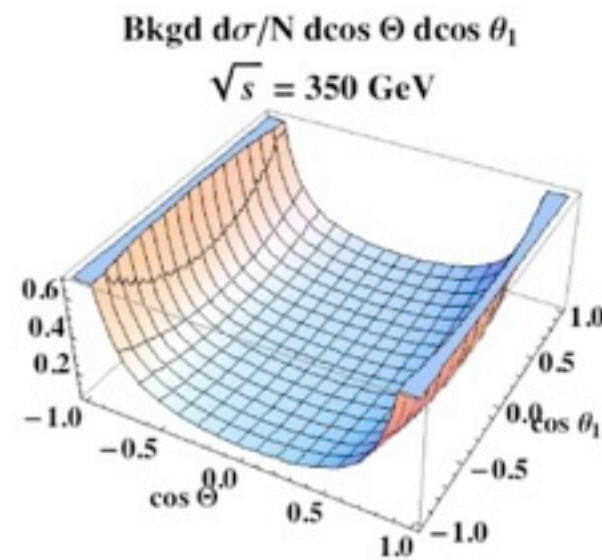
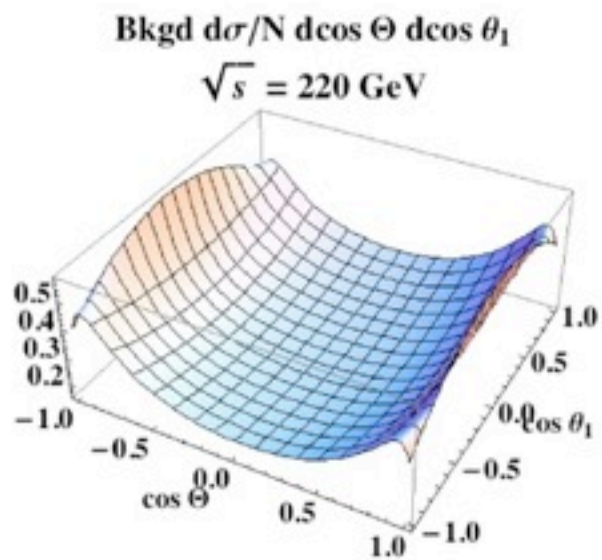
Blue (dashed) = Background

Red (solid) = Signal



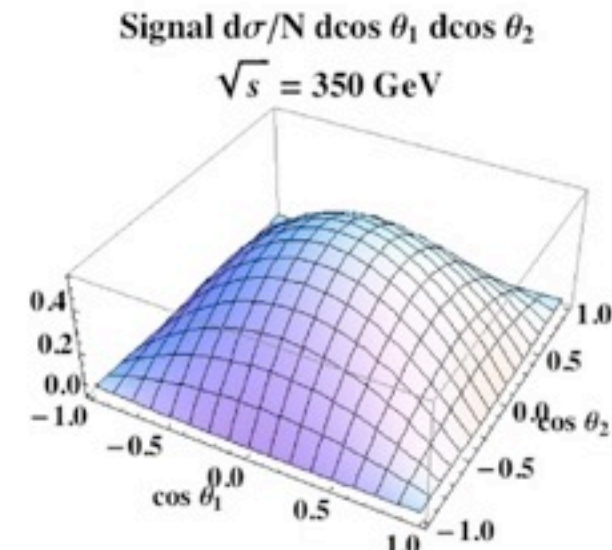
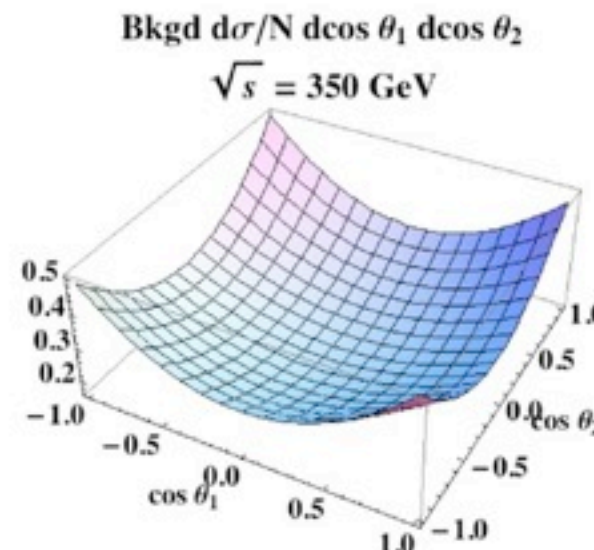
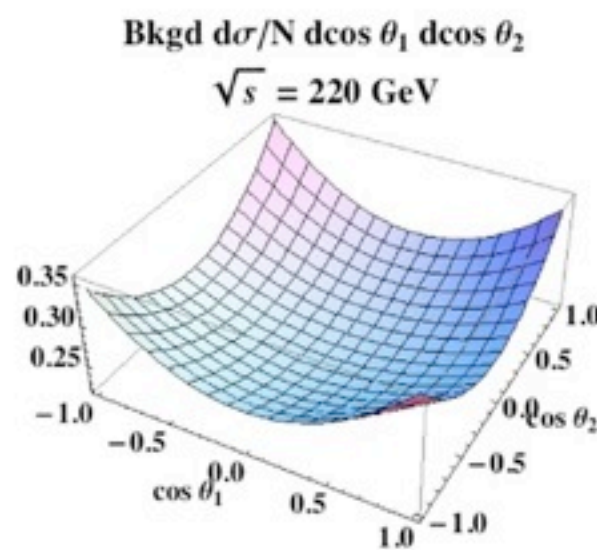
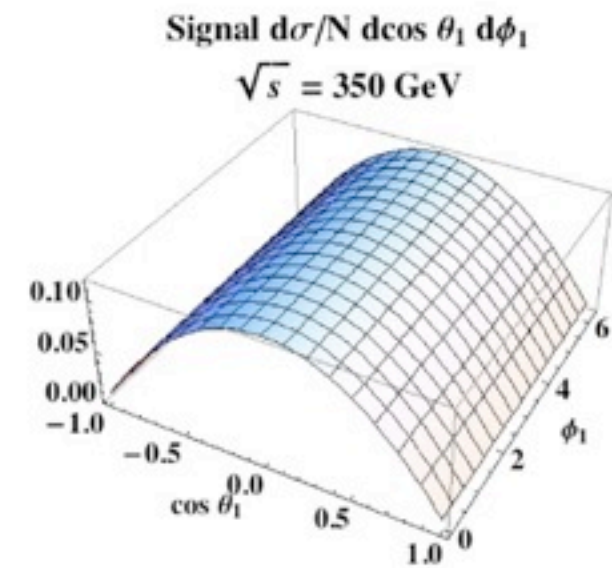
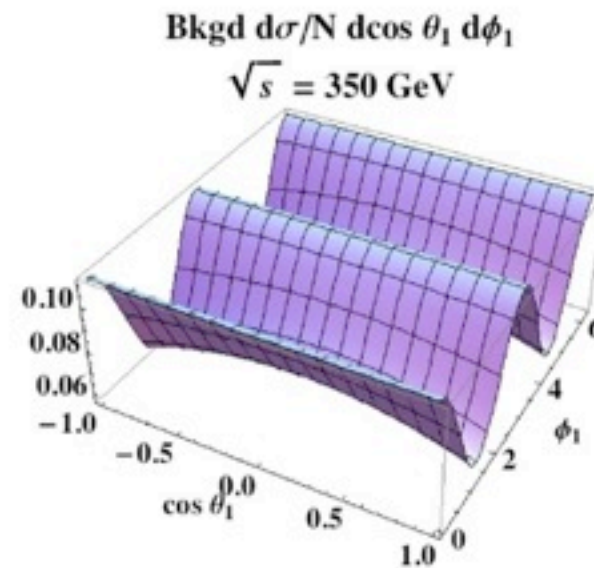
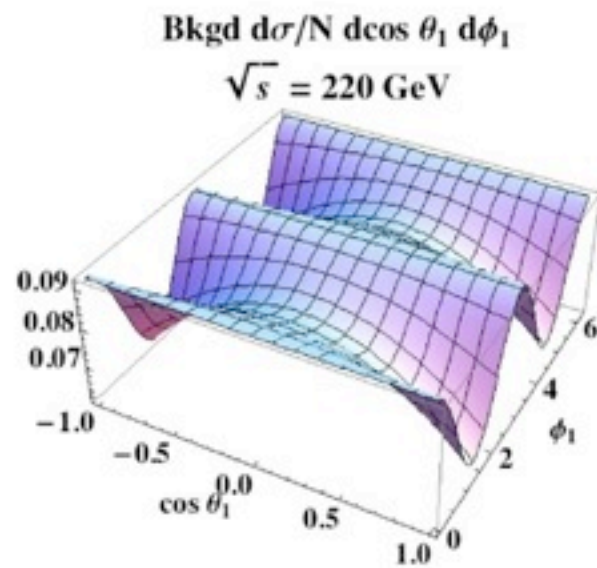


# DOUBLY-DIFFERENTIAL ANGULAR DISTRIBUTIONS



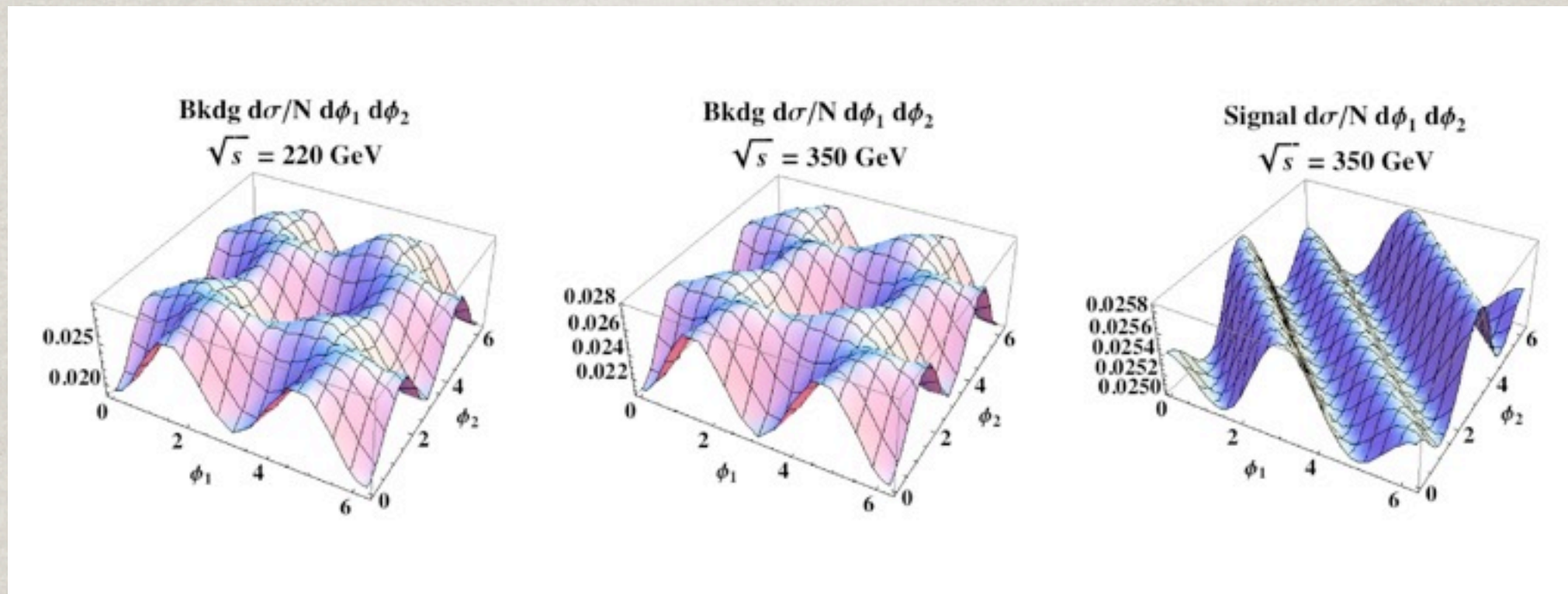


# DOUBLY-DIFFERENTIAL ANGULAR DISTRIBUTIONS





# DOUBLY-DIFFERENTIAL ANGULAR DISTRIBUTIONS



- ✱ Much more information in 2-D distributions than 1-D
- ✱ Presumably still more in 5 angles +  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ ,  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$  = 9-D distributions.
- ✱ ( $x_1$ ,  $x_2$  can be replaced with event invariant mass and pseudo-rapidity)



# SMEARING/ ACCEPTANCE

✱ However, things are made somewhat more complicated by detector smearing, the effect of detector geometry, and the effect of cuts.

✱ We smear electron energies according to

$$\left(\frac{\sigma_{E,e}}{E}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{0.036}{\sqrt{E}}\right)^2 + 0.0026^2$$

and muon pT according to

$$\sigma_{p_T,\mu} = 0.015 p_T - 5.710^{-6} p_T^2 + 2.210^{-7} p_T^3$$

following the CMS TDR

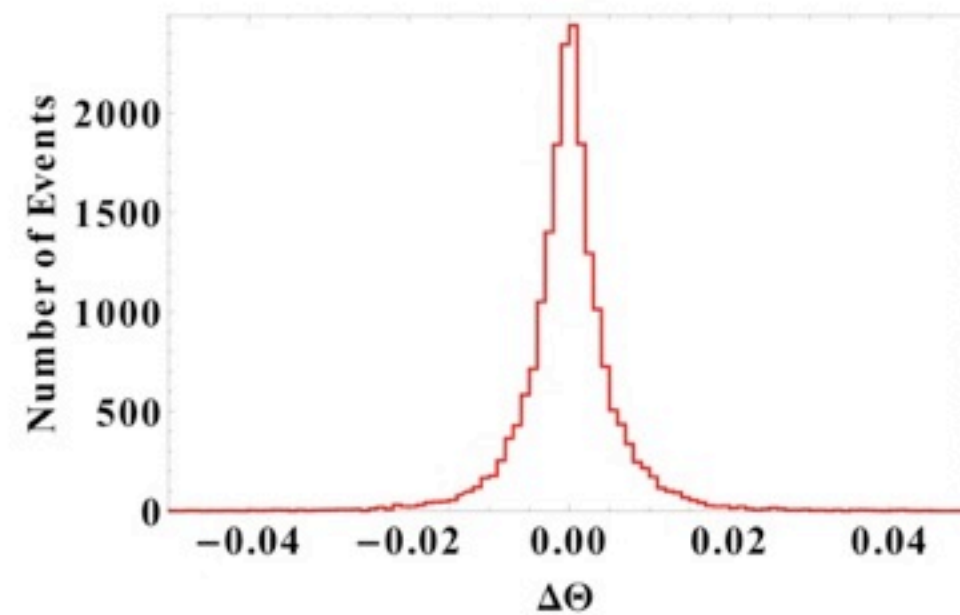
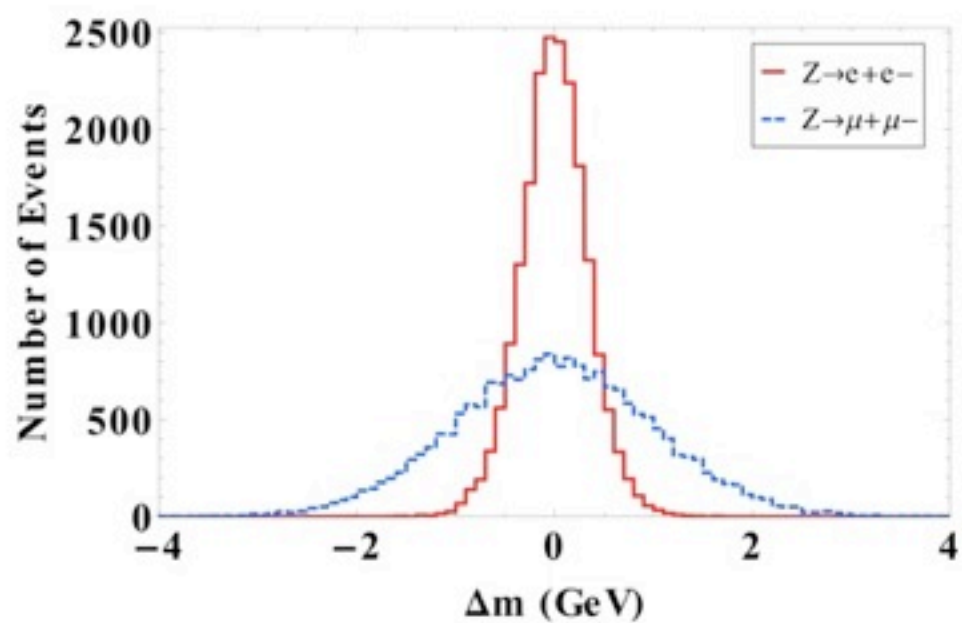


# SMEARING

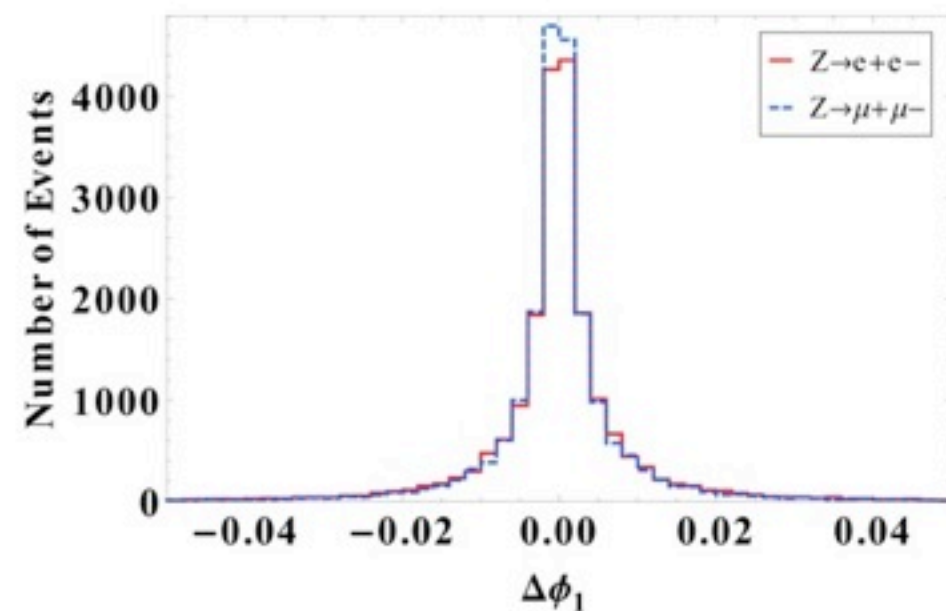
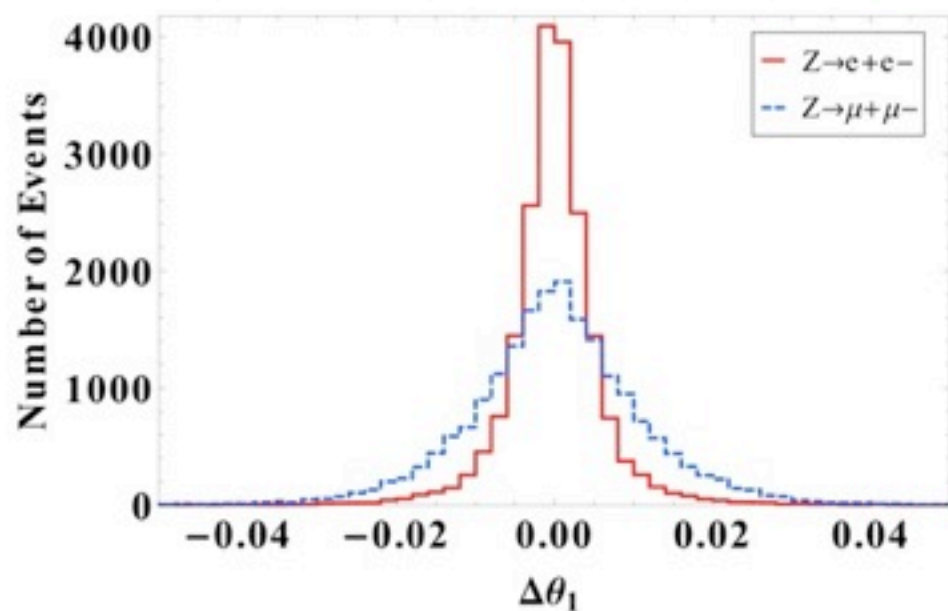
- ✱ The constant term in the electron energy resolution may be optimistic, so we tried doubling it; this did not significantly affect our results.
- ✱ We do not include the different reconstruction efficiencies for electrons and muons, though these would certainly need to be included in a more sophisticated analysis.



# EFFECT OF SMEARING



From Background 2e 2mu Channel





# ACCEPTANCE, CUTS

✱ We impose the cuts

$$|p_T| \geq 10 \text{ GeV}$$

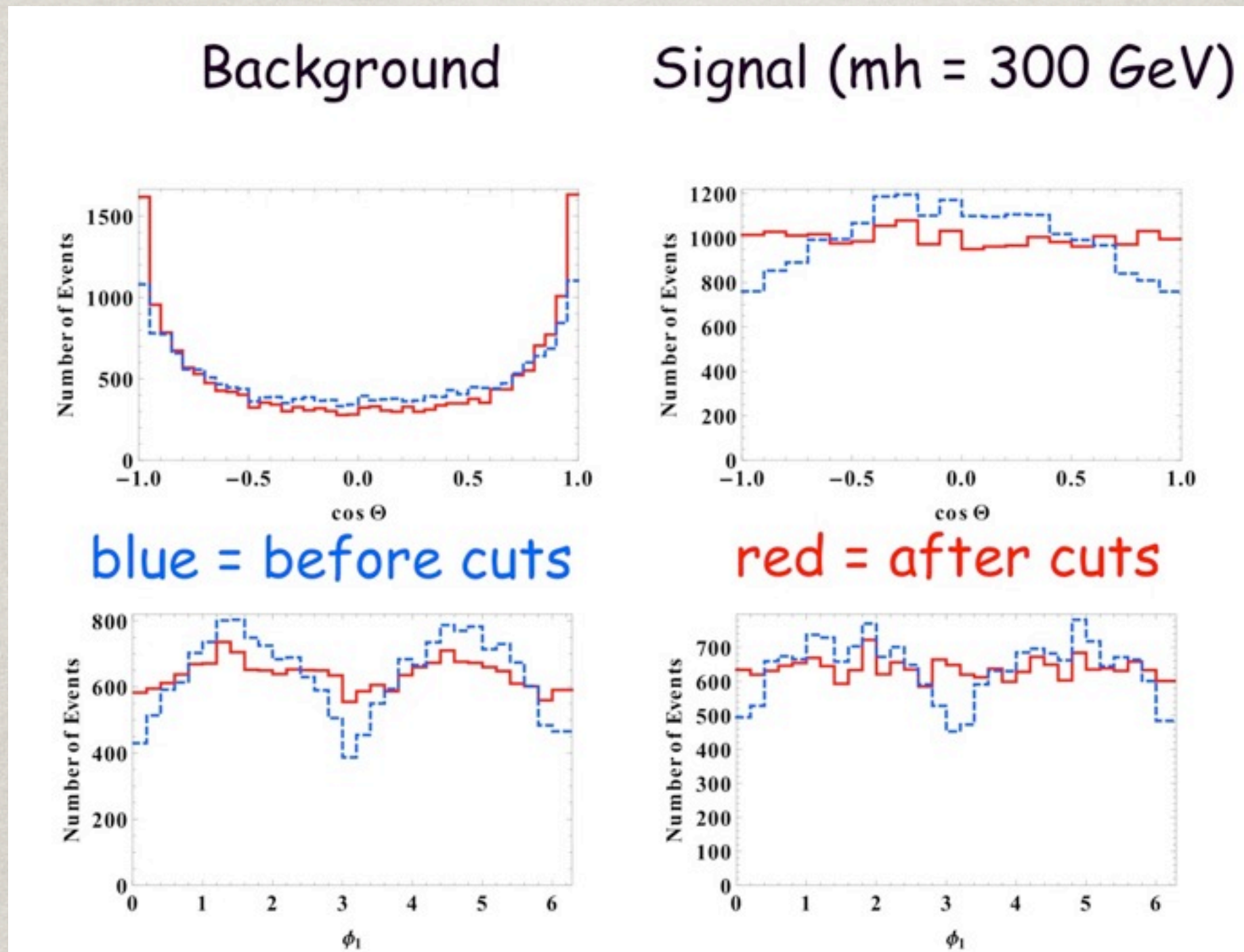
$$|\eta| \leq 2.5$$

and consider only background events in the range

$$150 \text{ GeV} \leq \hat{s} \leq 450 \text{ GeV}$$



# EFFECT OF SMEARING, ACCEPTANCE AND CUTS



Background and signal generically more similar than before cuts, etc.



# SIGNIFICANCE- PROCEDURE

- ✻ To understand how much use of the MEM would increase significance we performed 10,000 pseudo-experiments for (each of)  $m_h = 175, 200, 220, 250, 300, \text{ and } 350 \text{ GeV}$ .
- ✻ Each pseudo-experiment had a number of signal and background events chosen from a Poisson distribution.
- ✻ Each pseudo-experiment involves events from 3 channels,  $4e$ ,  $2e2\mu$ , and  $4\mu$ .



# NUMBER OF EVENTS IN PSEUDO-EXPERIMENT

	$m_h(\text{GeV})$	$\sigma(\text{fb})$	$\epsilon$	$\langle N \rangle$
Signal	175	0.218	0.512	0.279
	200	1.26	0.594	1.87
	220	1.16	0.625	1.81
	250	0.958	0.654	1.57
	300	0.714	0.701	1.25
	350	0.600	0.708	1.06
Background	-	8.78	0.519	11.4

For  $2.5 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ ,  $2e \ 2\mu$  channel

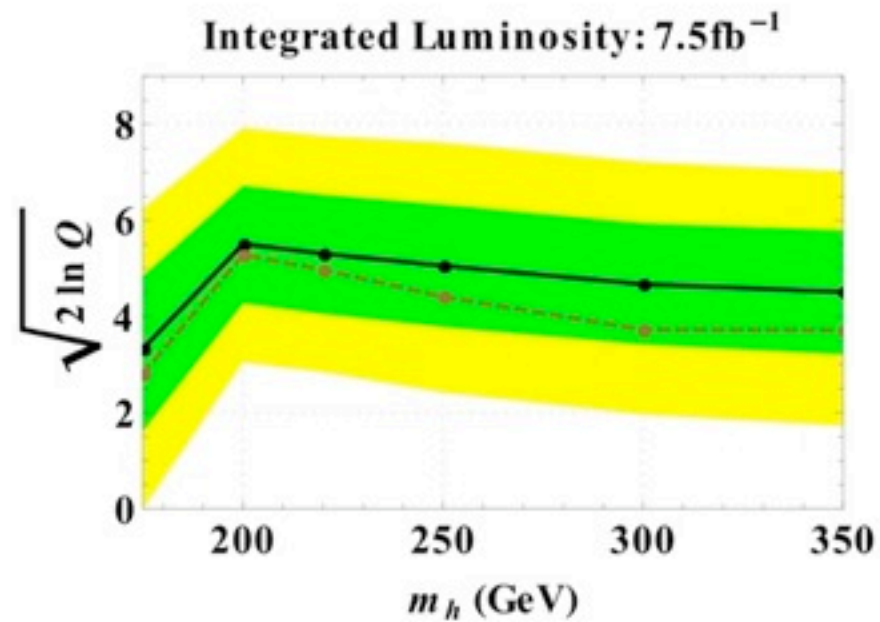
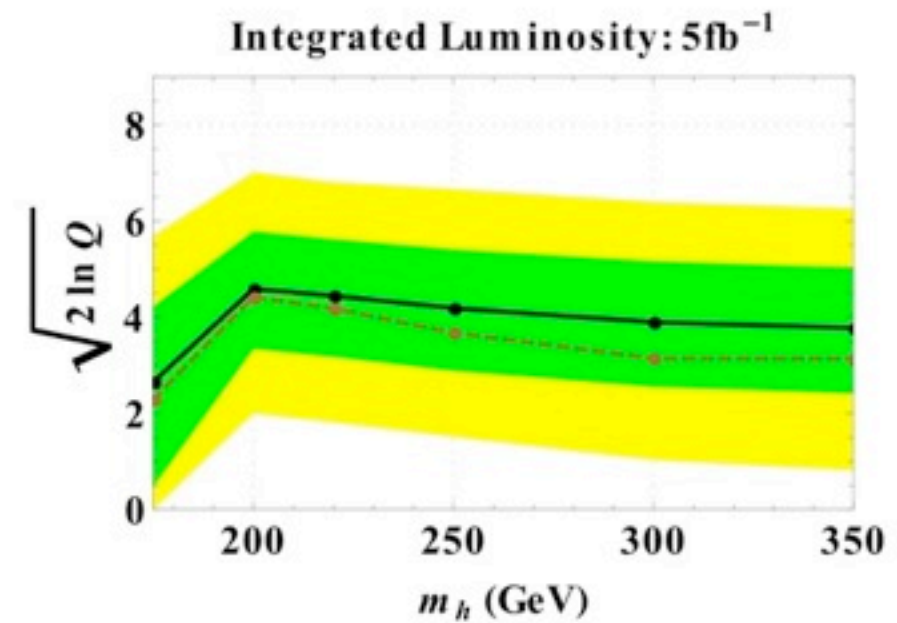
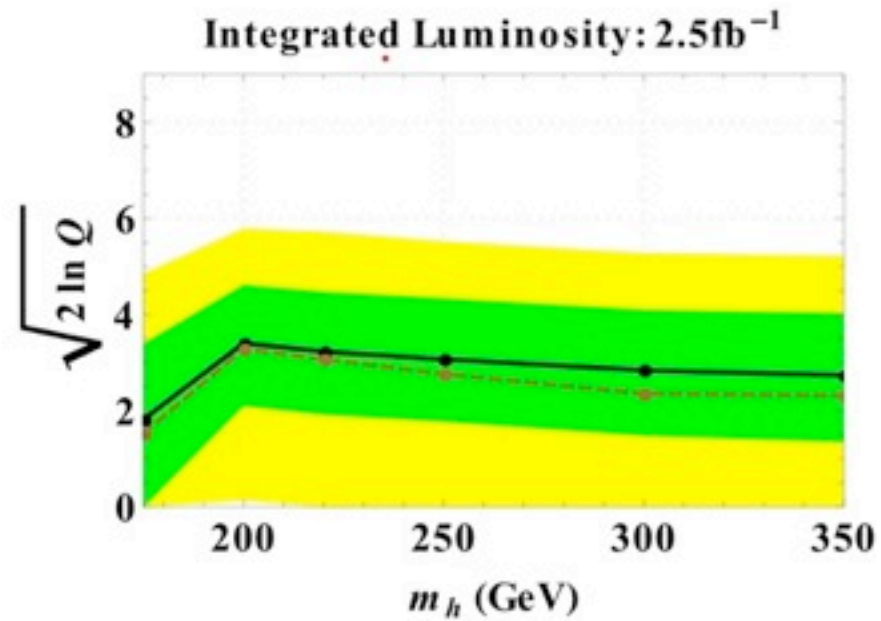


# SIGNIFICANCE- PROCEDURE

- ✱ For each pseudo-experiment we **maximized the likelihood** with respect to yield,  $f$ , and the Higgs mass, using the same Higgs mass for all 3 channels.
- ✱ Obtained a measure of significance from the ratio between the likelihood of the signal + background hypothesis to the likelihood for the background only hypothesis.
- ✱ Compare significance obtained with MEM to that obtained with a likelihood which is only a function of mass information ( $M_1, M_2, m_{4l}$ )



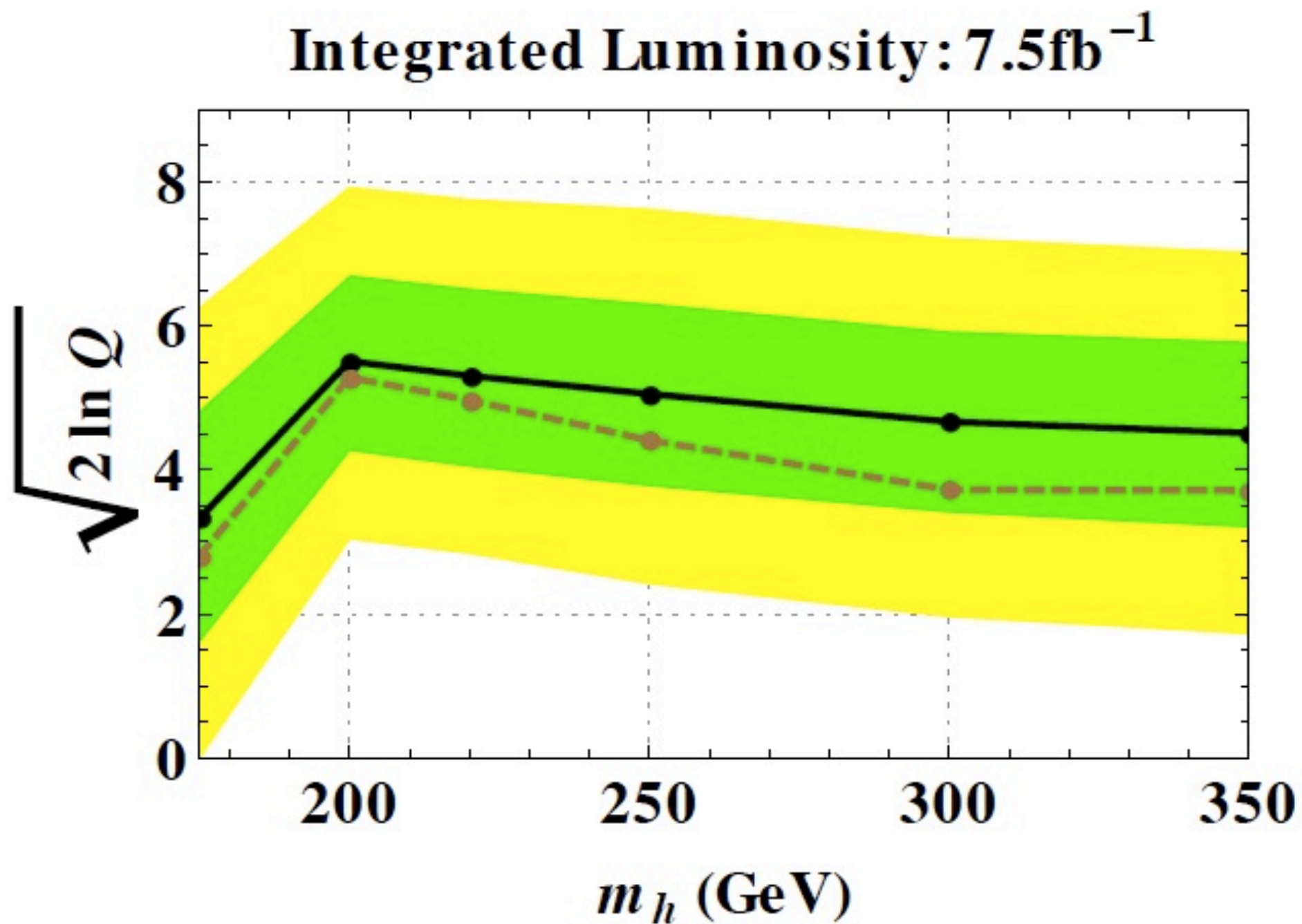
# SIGNIFICANCE



MEM central value  
1 sigma band  
2 sigma band  
Invariant masses only



# SIGNIFICANCE





# SIGNIFICANCE

- ✱ Difference in significance greatest at higher Higgs masses, when **background** is dominated by  $(\pm, \mp)$   $ZZ$  production helicity amplitudes
- ✱ Signal is (always) all  $(\pm, \pm)$  and  $(0,0)$   $ZZ$  production helicity amplitudes



# LIMITS- PROCEDURE

- ✱ As noted above, we treat the expected number of signal and background events as a parameter to be obtained from data
- ✱ To really set limits, one should use some information about overall signal, background cross sections
- ✱ Interesting, and simpler in our setup, to see how well one can do with only the yield parameter,  $f$ . The corresponding limit should be weaker, as overall cross section information is not used.

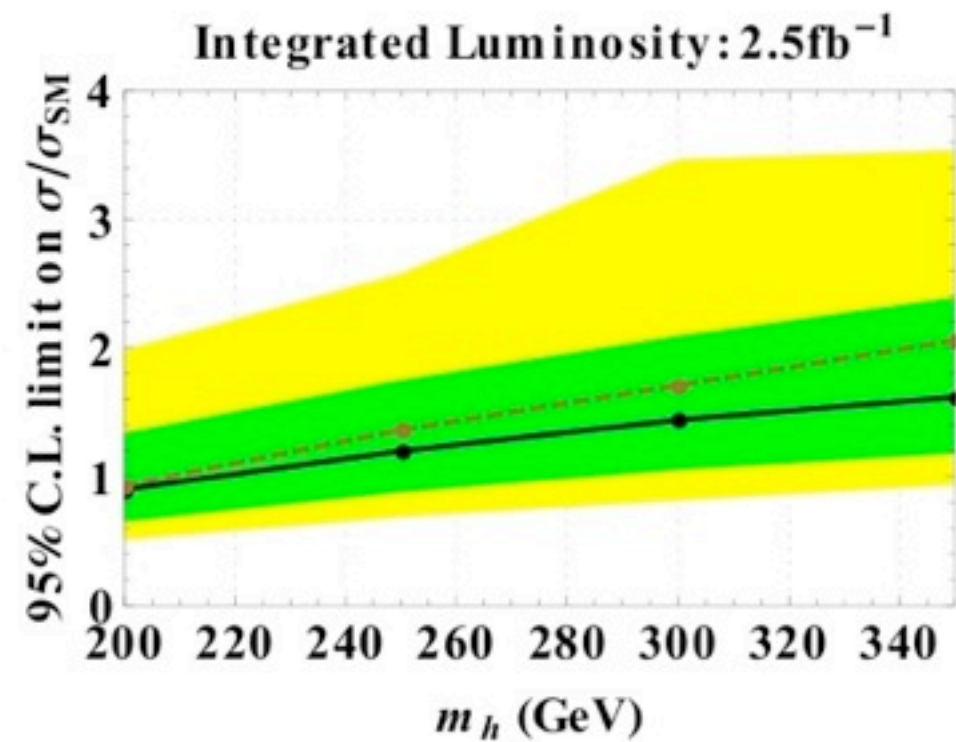
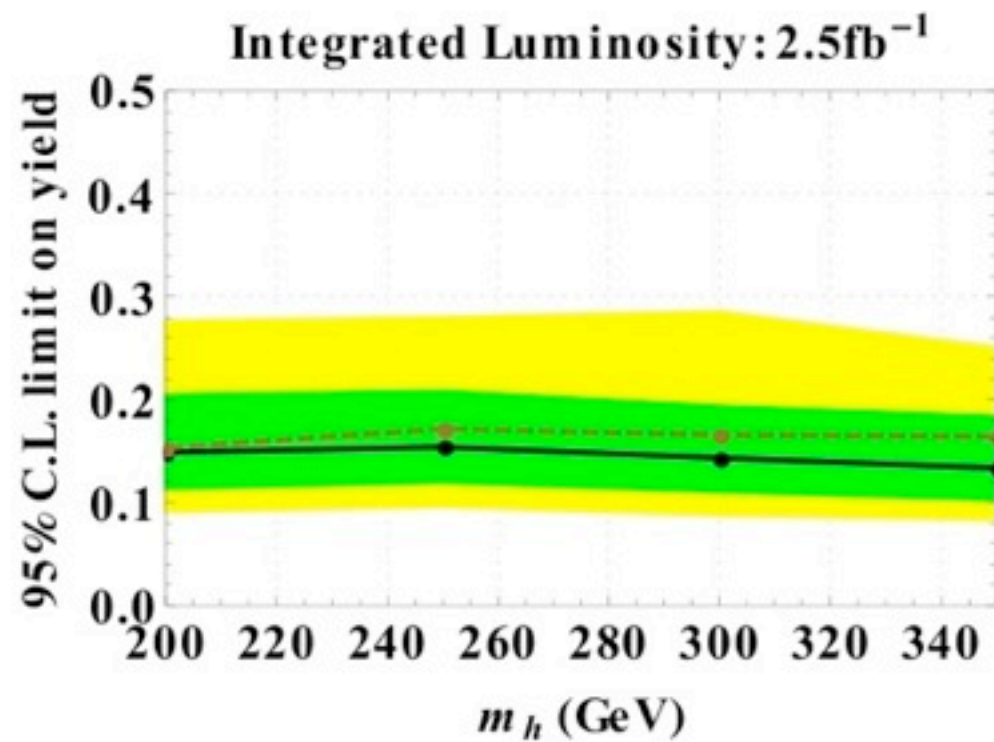
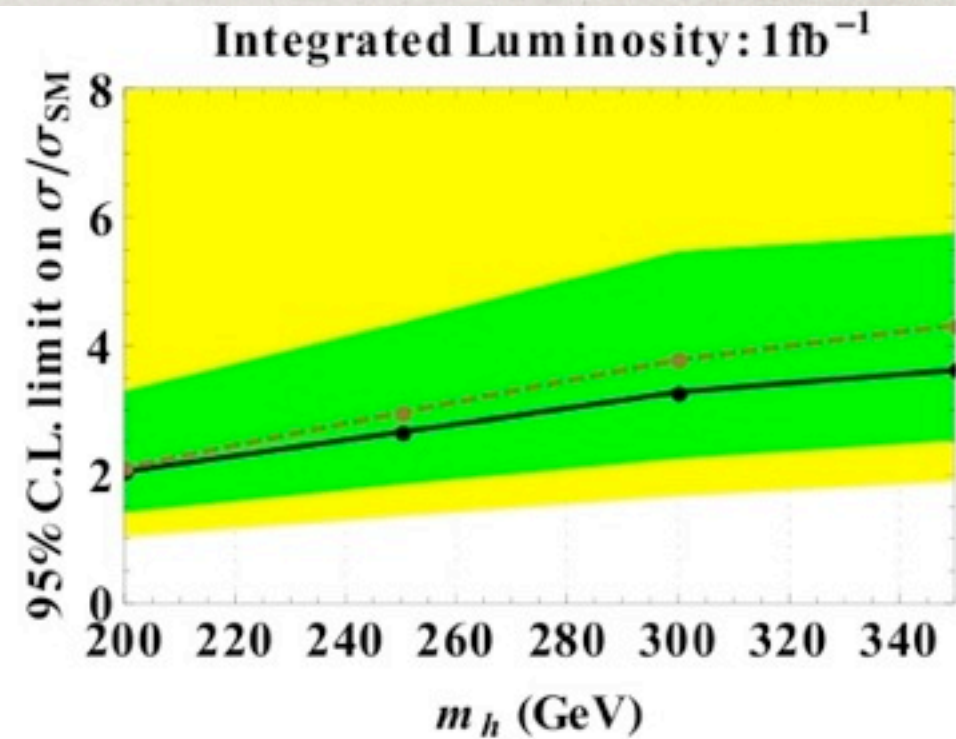
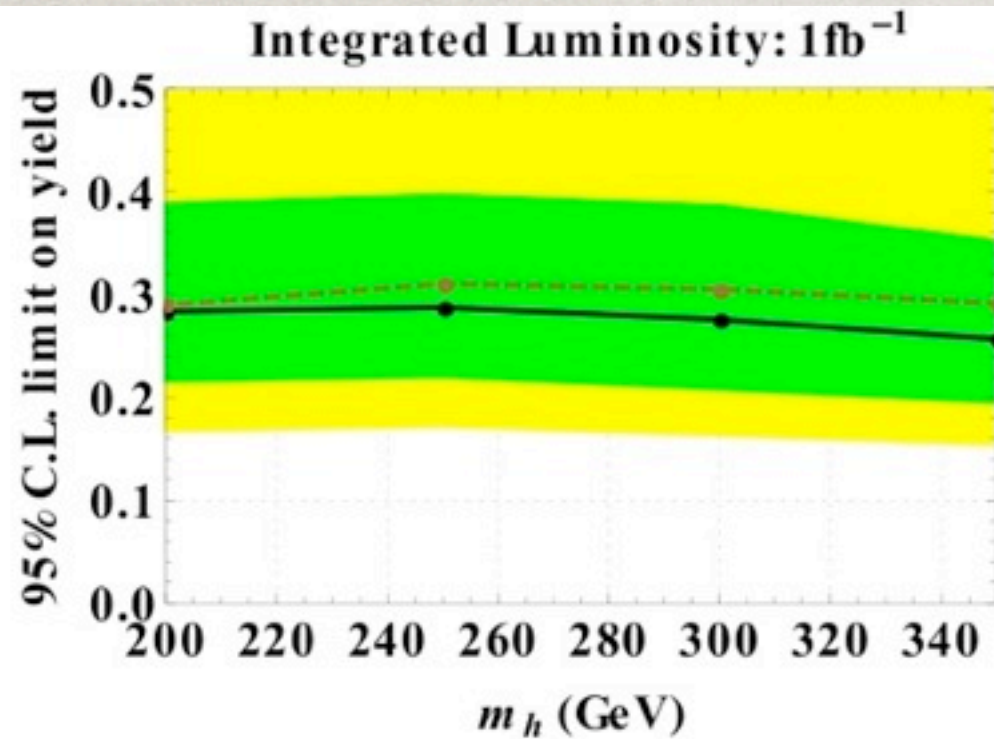


# LIMITS- PROCEDURE

- ✱ Performed 1000 pseudo-experiments for Higgs masses of 200, 250, 300, and 350 GeV.
- ✱ Obtained 95% confidence limits on yield parameter  $f$ .
- ✱ Demand  $f$  be the same for each channel ( $4e$ ,  $2e2\mu$ ,  $4\mu$ )
- ✱ Can translate these into limits on signal cross section assuming background perfectly known (for illustrative purposes only).

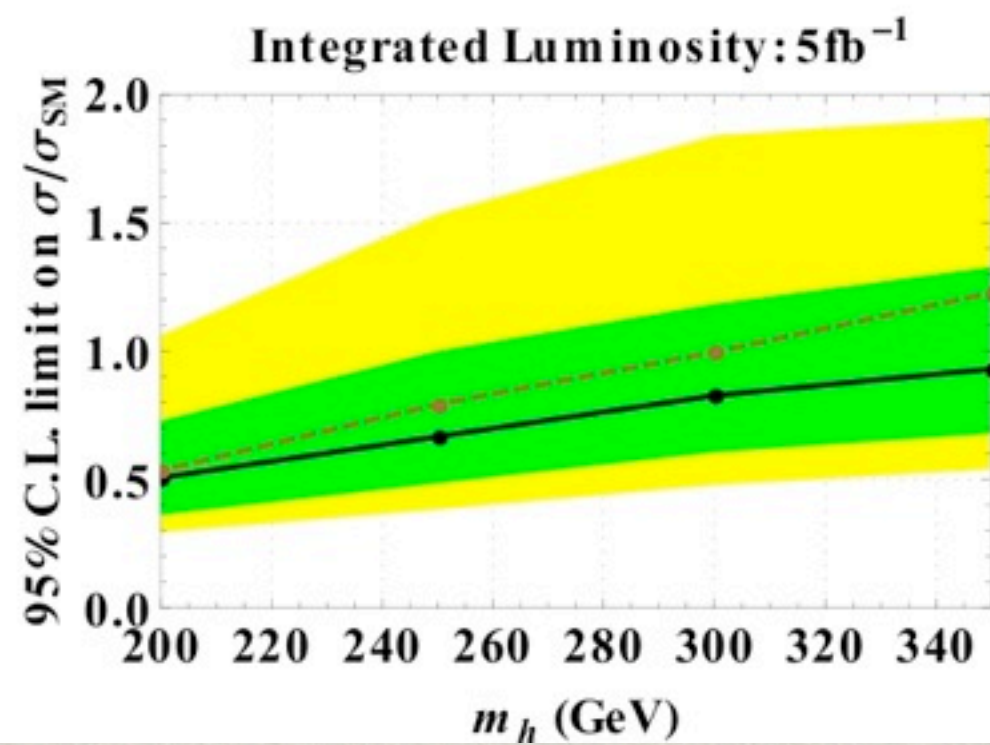
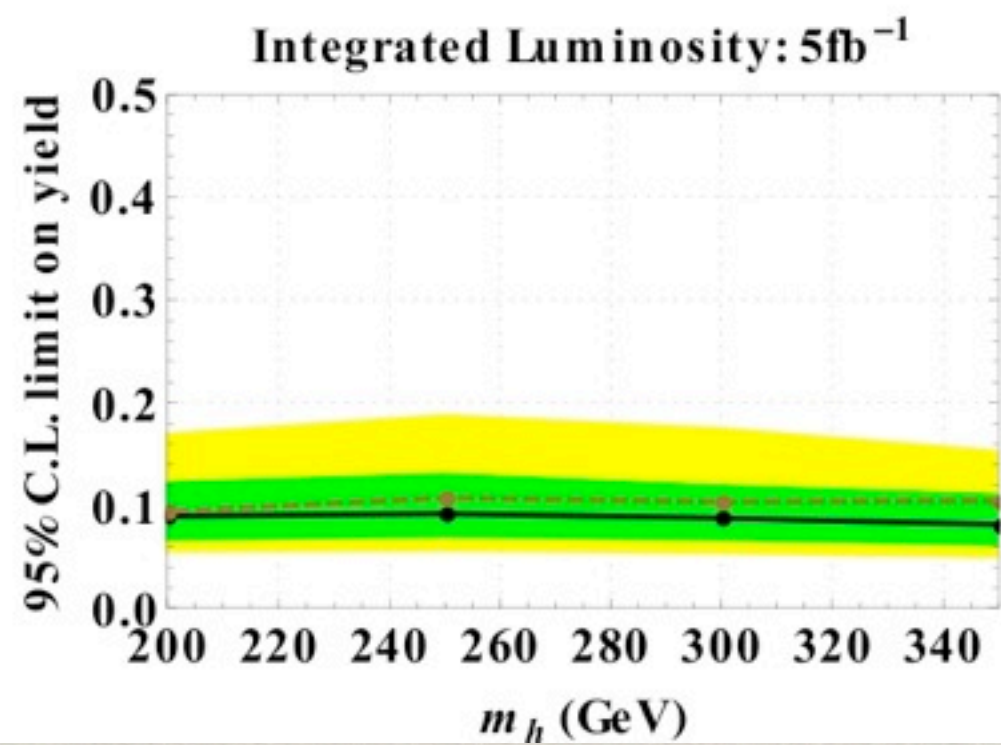


# LIMITS



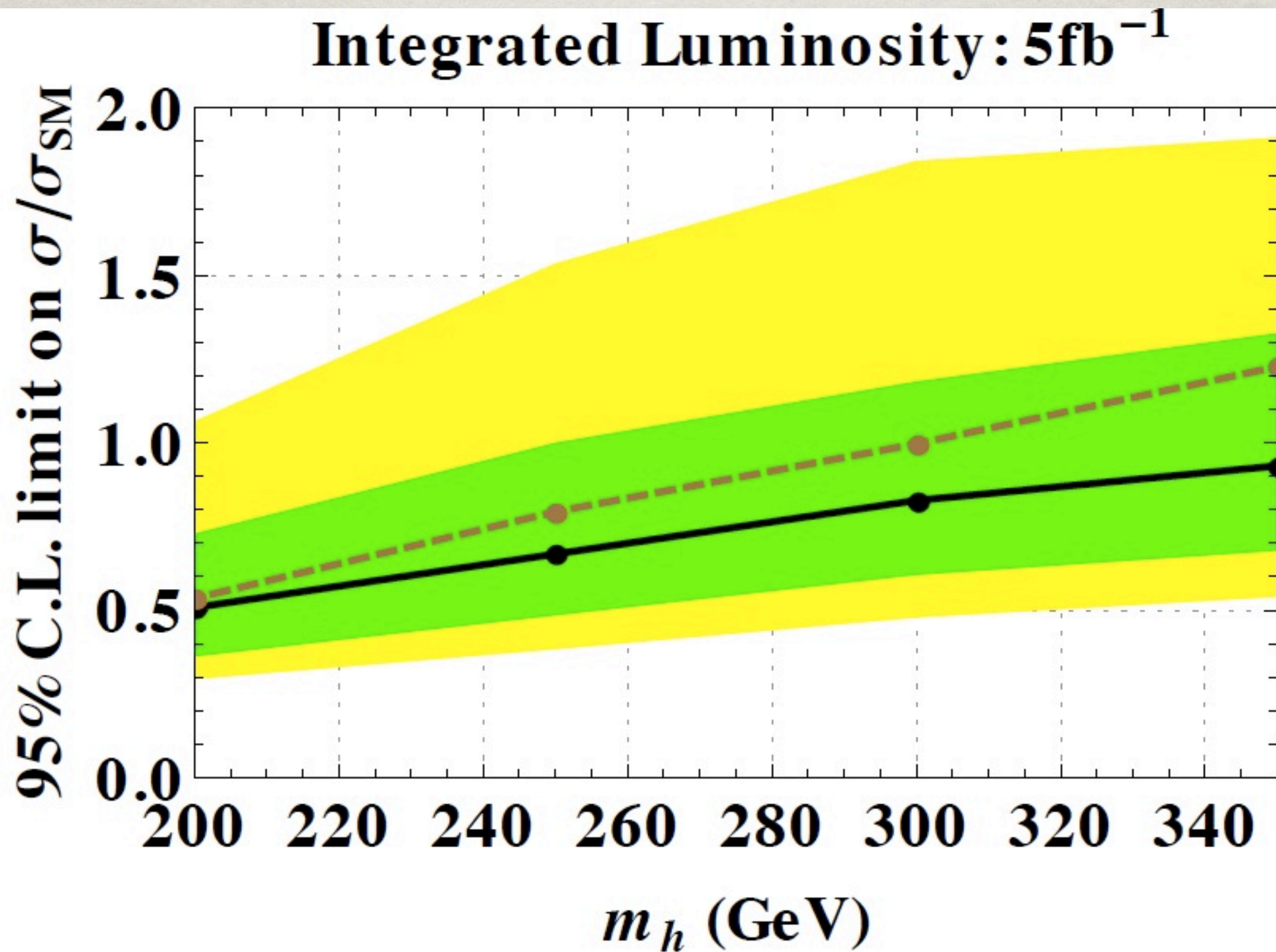


# LIMITS





# LIMITS





# FURTHER (FUTURE?) COMPLICATIONS

- ✱ We used a LO cross sections and considered only the zero-jet bin
  - ✱ though we did use K-factors for signal and background production
- ✱ Interesting to see there are e.g. particular masses where **NLO** changes things.
- ✱ In particular  $gg \rightarrow ZZ$  backgrounds could interfere with signal production, changing the angular correlations, though this effect is probably small.



# FURTHER (FUTURE?) COMPLICATIONS

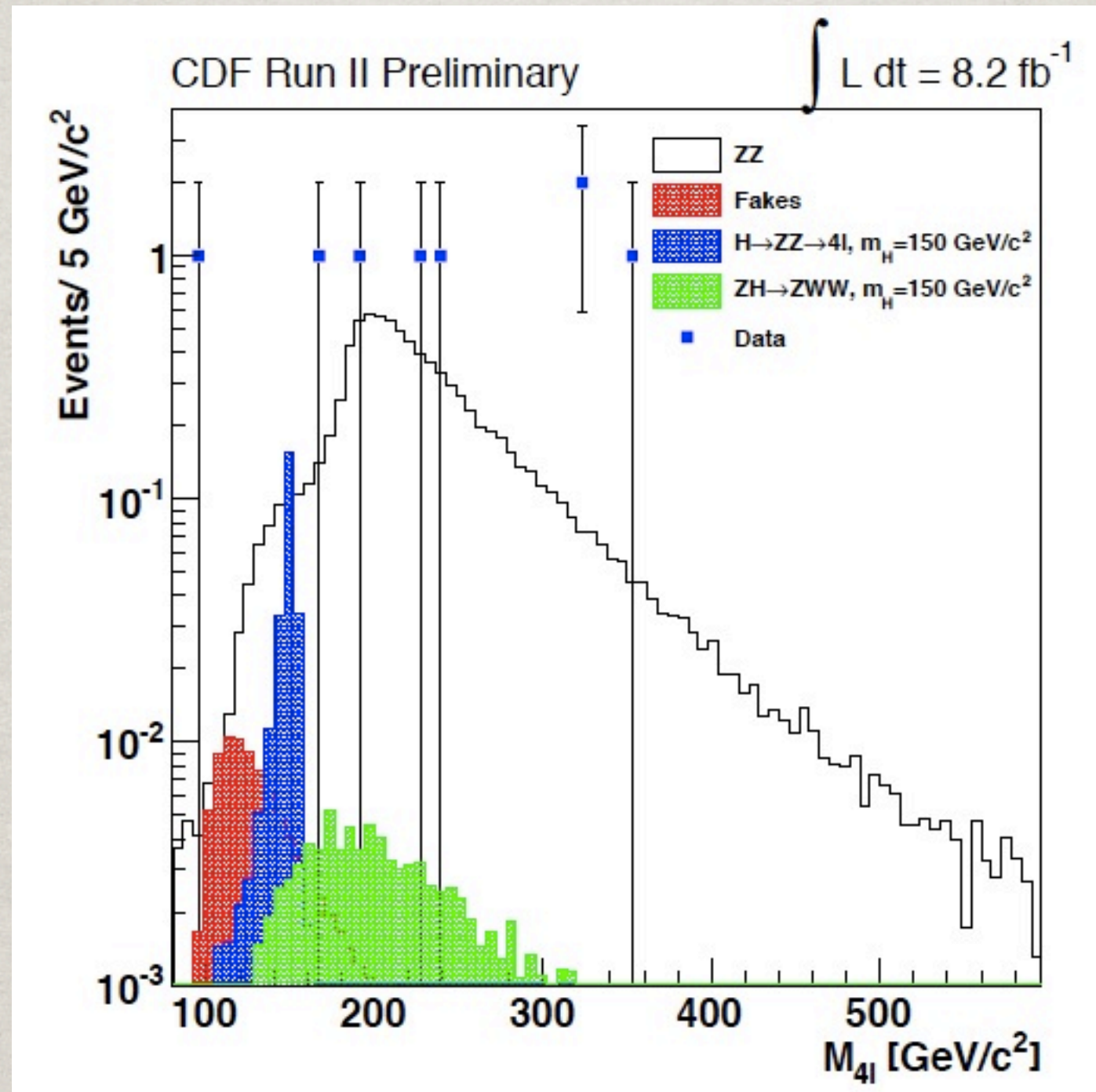
- ✱ Also it would be interesting to consider more jets.
- ✱ Alwall and Freitas studied a method for approximating multi-jet matrix elements when using the MEM (Phys.Rev. D83 (2011) 074010). It would be interesting to quantify how well this approach works for this process.
- ✱ Sometimes additional jets could give useful information







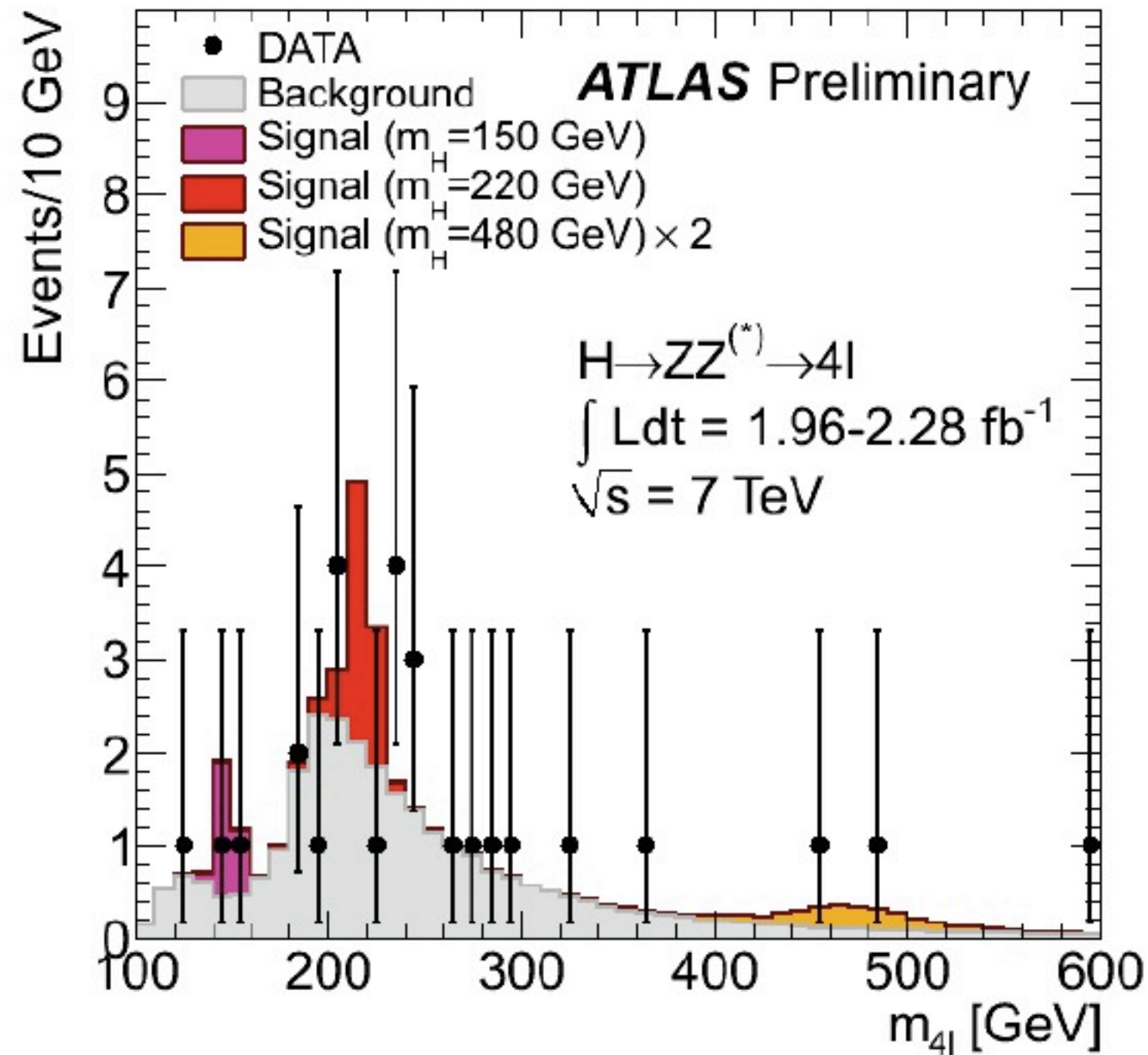
# CDF ZZ $\rightarrow$ 4L EXCESS



2 events with  $M_{4l} \approx 300 \text{ GeV}$

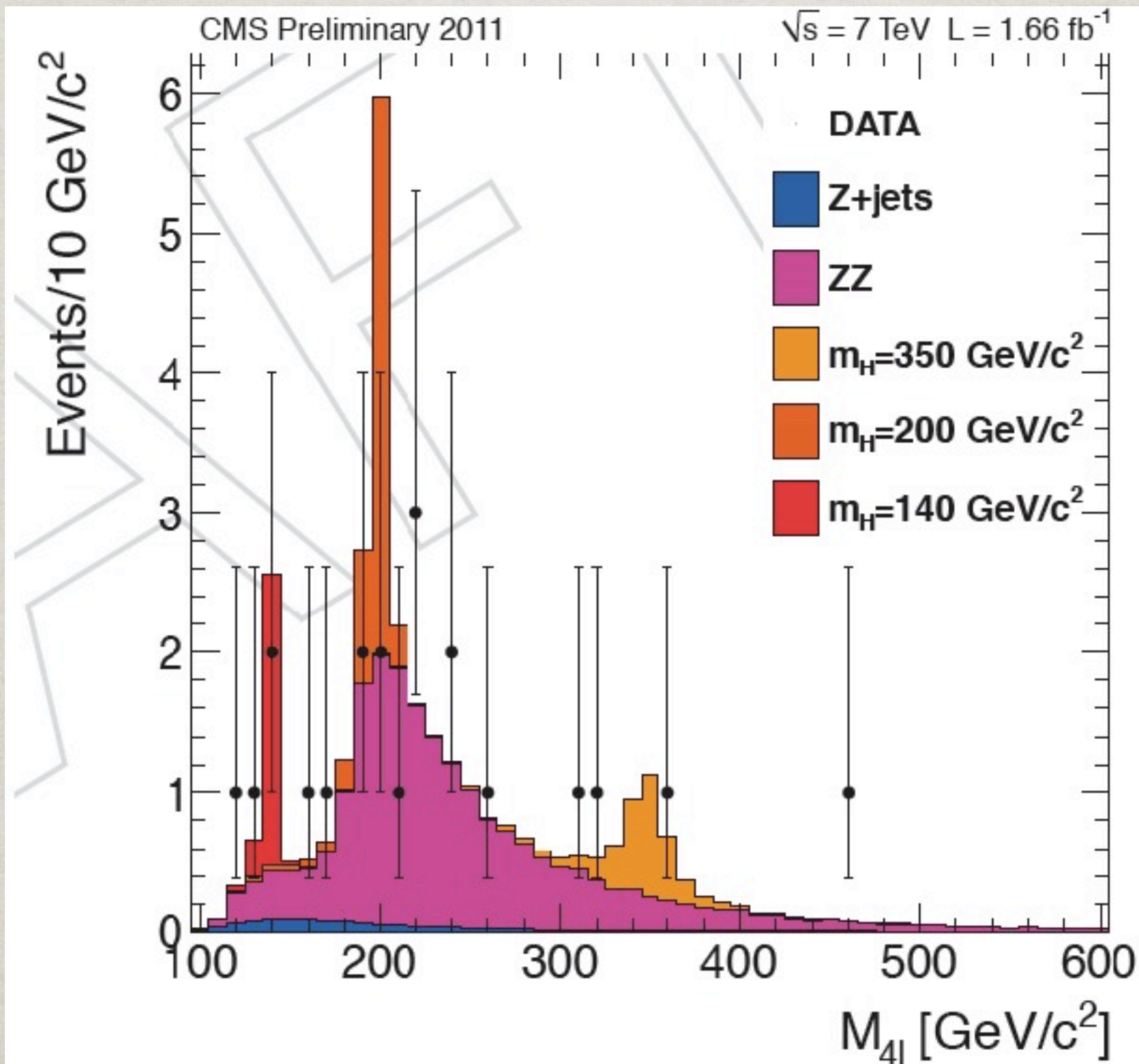


# ATLAS ZZ $\rightarrow$ 4L



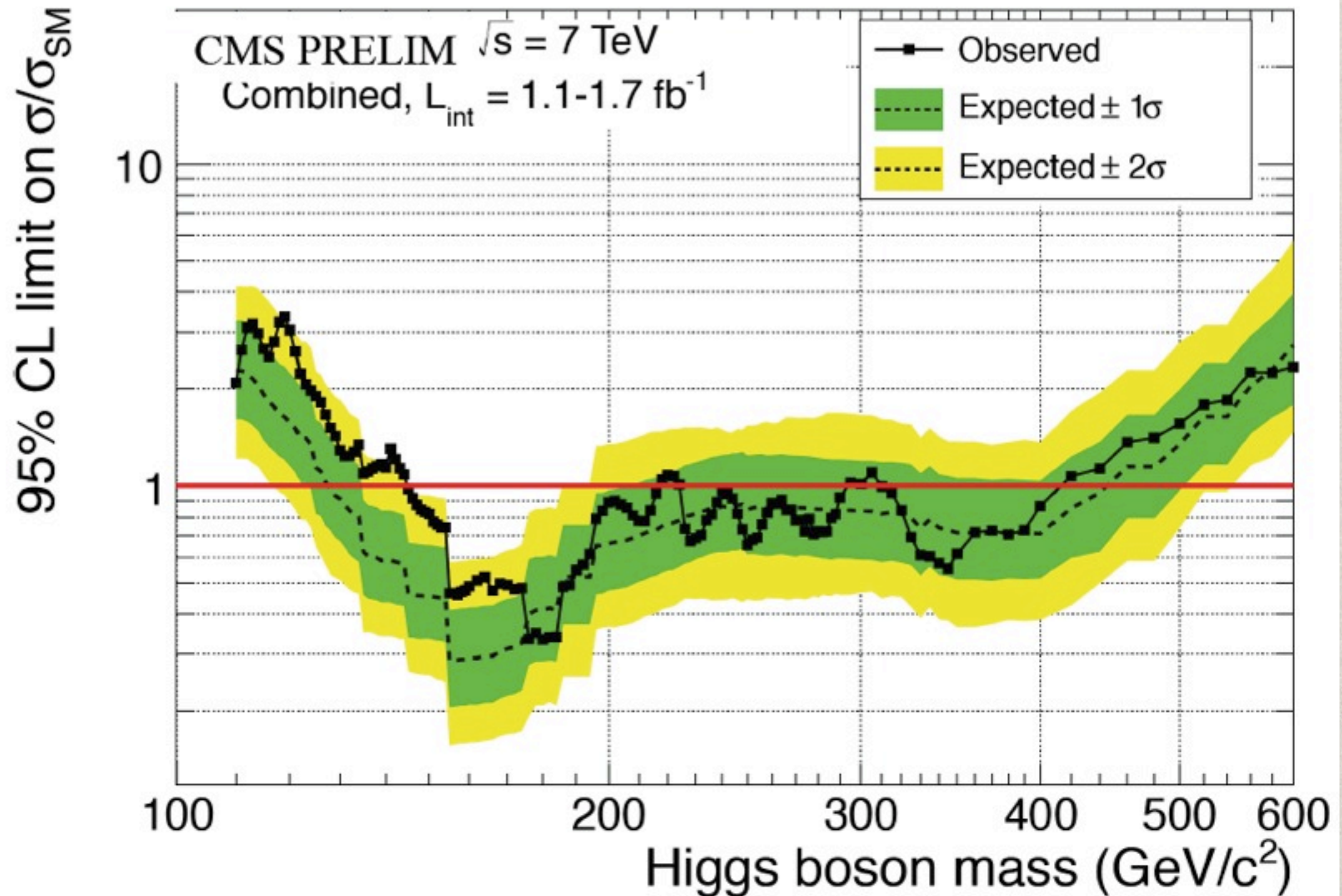


# CMS $ZZ \rightarrow 4L$



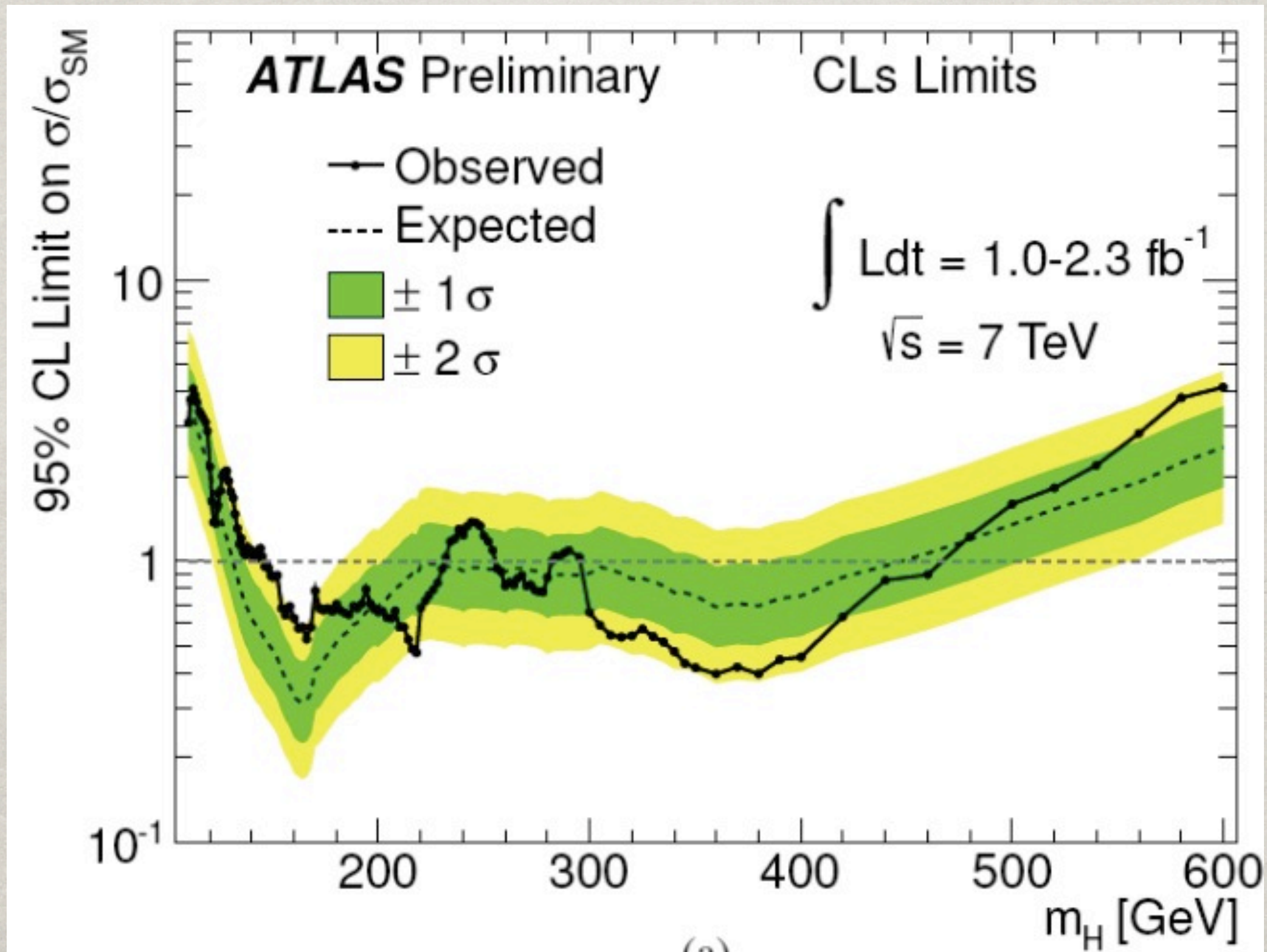


# CMS HIGGS EXCLUSION





# ATLAS HIGGS EXCLUSION



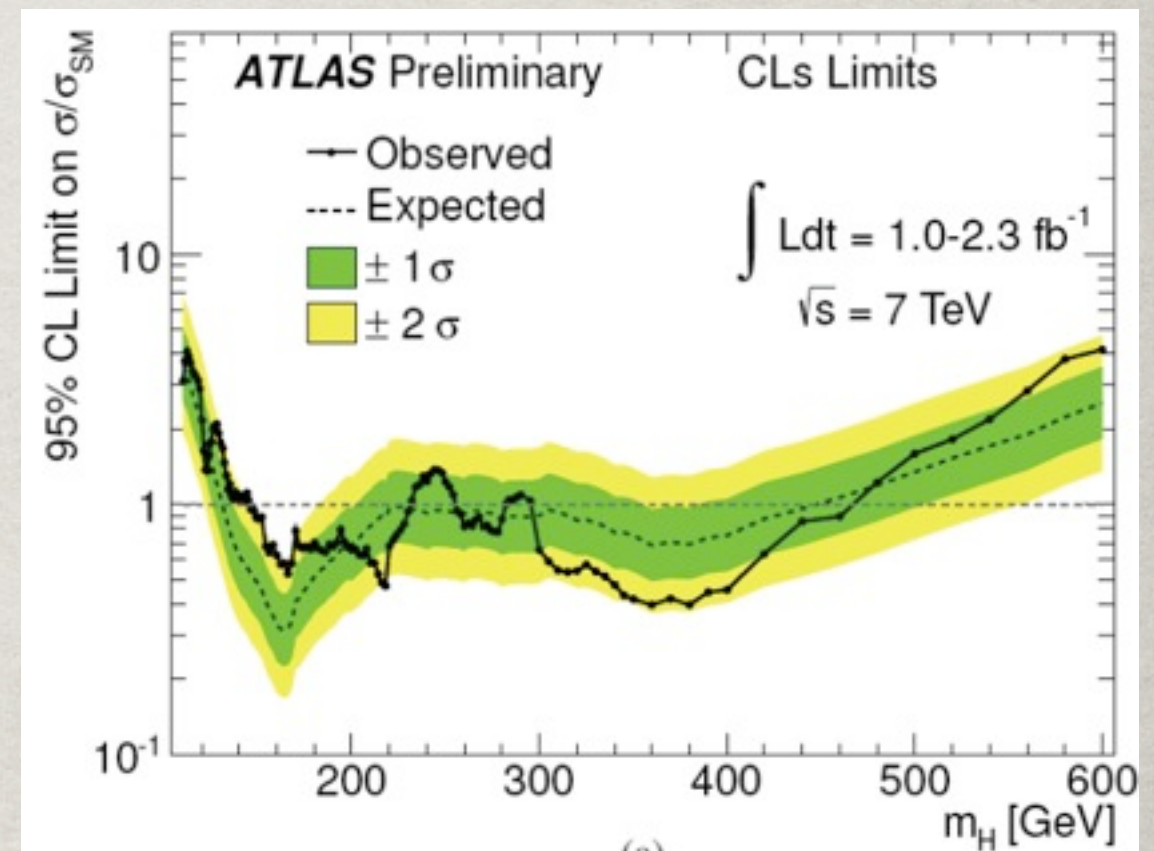
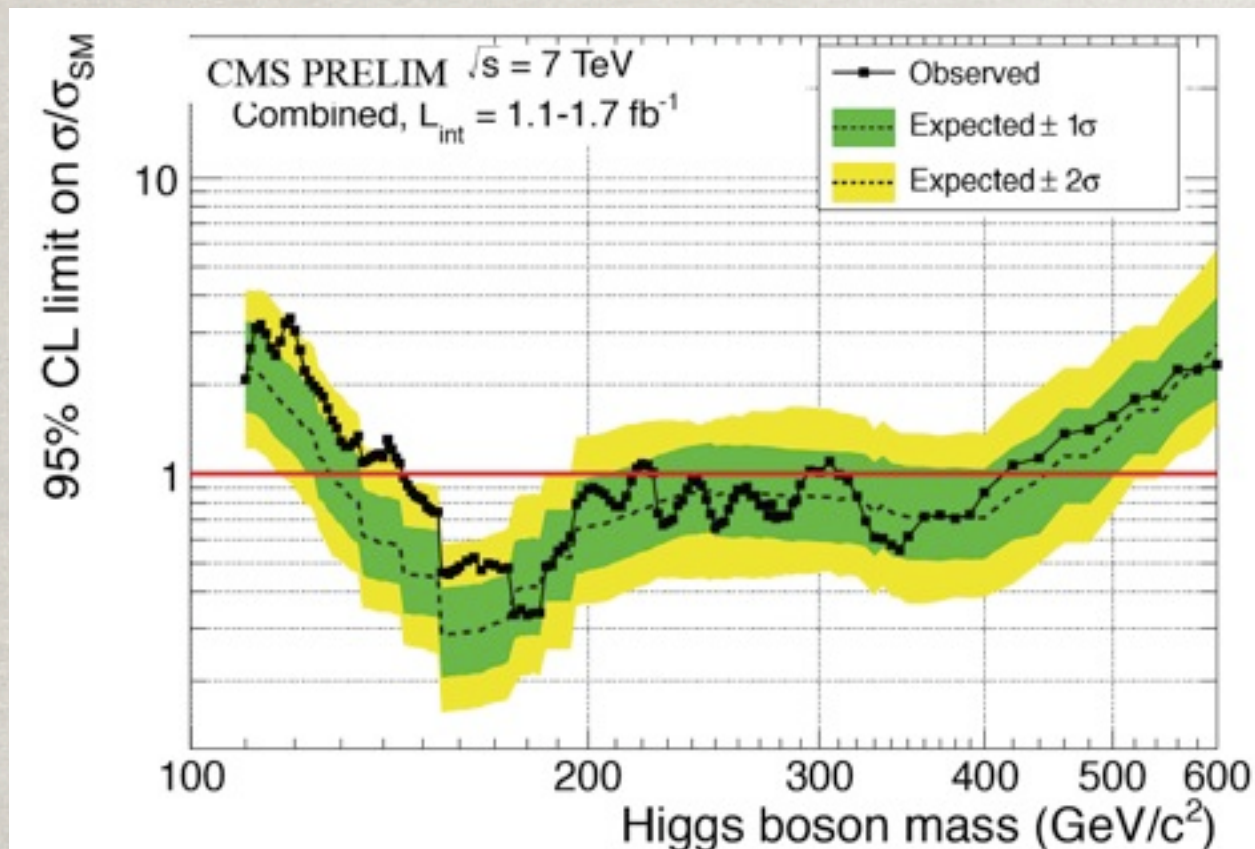


# EXPERIMENTAL SITUATION

- ✱ Heavy SM Higgs nearly ruled out in combination
  - ✱ (though not quite in a few places)
- ✱ However, we would like to be able to set stricter limits in every channel, to exclude (or discover) non-SM Higgses.
- ✱ So still important to study how to increase sensitivity for heavy Higgs.
- ✱ Working with experimentalists from **CMS** and **ATLAS** to implement analyses like ours.



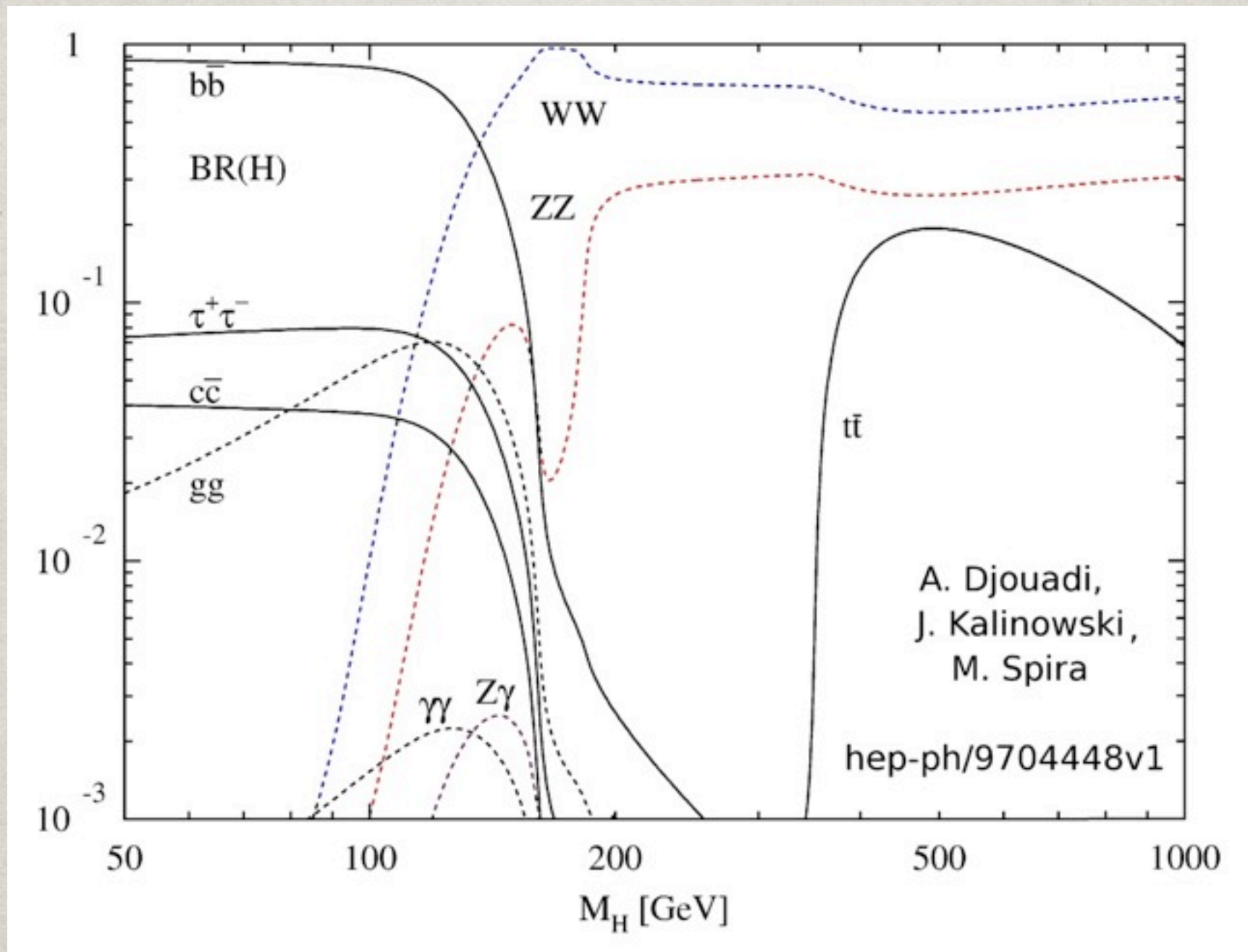
# FUTURE DIRECTIONS



- ✿ Observed limits being higher than expected limits for a broad range of lower Higgs masses suggests studying  $\sim 130 - 140 \text{ GeV}$  Higgs



# FUTURE DIRECTIONS



- ✿  $ZZ^*$  is not too bad for somewhat lower mass (increased Higgs production somewhat compensates for lower BR)



# FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow Z\gamma)$  always less than  $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow ZZ^*)$
- However, demanding leptonic decays for each channel enhances  $Z\gamma$  relative to  $ZZ^* \rightarrow 4l$  by  $\sim 16$ .
- So  $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow Z\gamma \rightarrow ll\gamma) > \text{BR}(h \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4l)$  for  $m_h < \sim 125 \text{ GeV}$ . It is within a factor of 2 for  $m_h < \sim 145 \text{ GeV}$ .



# FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- This channel should provide important additional information for spin discrimination in this mass ranges.
- Might also help for discovery, though the number of events is small.
- Important to quantify the extent to which this is the case.
- Working with Wai-Yee Keung, Ian Low, and Pedro Schwaller to do this.



# CONCLUSIONS

- ✱ A study of using the MEM for Higgs discovery in the “golden mode” of  $h \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$  suggests that  $\sim 10 - 20\%$  increases in sensitivity may be obtained.
- ✱ Experimental interest now.
- ✱ Continued usefulness in future to set limits on additional? non-SM Higgses with smaller cross section times branching ratio.
- ✱ Work in progress on how useful the MEM would be in  $ZZ^*$  at lower Higgs masses, also in  $Z\gamma$ .
- ✱ Exciting times for Higgs Physics!